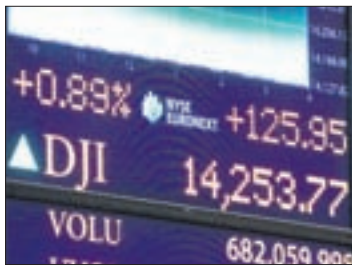


Dow Jones Roars Back

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market is back. Five and a half years after



A board on the NYSE floor shows the record-high closing number for the Dow Jones industrial average, Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

the start of a frightening drop that erased \$11 trillion from stock portfolios and made investors despair of ever getting their money back, the Dow Jones industrial average has regained all the losses suffered during the Great Recession and reached a new high. The blue-chip index rose 125.95 points Tuesday and closed at 14,253.77, topping the previous record of 14,164.53 on Oct. 9, 2007, by 89.24 points.

"It signals that things are getting back to normal," says Nicolas Colas, chief market strategist at ConvergEx Group, a brokerage. "Unemployment is too high, economic growth too sluggish, but stocks are anticipating improvement."

The new record suggests that investors who did not panic and sell their stocks in the 2008-2009 financial crisis have fully recovered. Those who have reinvested dividends or added to their holdings have done even better. Since bottoming at 6,547.05 on March 9, 2009, the Dow has risen 7,706.72 points or 118 percent.

Continued on Page 3



President Hugo Chavez of Venezuela greets supporters in Caracas, Venezuela, during a rally against American intervention in Venezuelan politics, Feb. 29, 2004. Chavez died Tuesday afternoon on March 5, 2013 after a long battle with cancer, the government announced. He was 58.

(Egilda Gomez/Miraflores Press via The New York Times)

Venezuelan strongman Hugo Chavez dead at 58

FRANK BAJAK
IAN JAMES
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— President Hugo Chavez was a fighter. The former paratroop commander and fiery populist waged continual battle for his socialist ideals and outsmarted his rivals time and again, defeating a coup attempt, winning re-election three times and using his country's vast oil wealth to his political advantage. A self-described "subversive," Chavez fashioned himself after the 19th Century independence leader Simon Bolivar and renamed his country the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

He called himself a "hum-

ble soldier" in a battle for socialism and against U.S. hegemony. He thrived on confrontation with Washington and his political opponents at home, and used those conflicts to rally his followers.

Almost the only adversary it seemed he couldn't beat was cancer. He died Tuesday in Caracas at 4:25 local time after his prolonged illness. He was 58.

During more than 14 years in office, his leftist politics and grandiose style polarized Venezuelans. The barrel-chested leader electrified crowds with his booming voice, and won admiration among the poor with government social programs and a folksy, nationalistic style.

His opponents seethed at the larger-than-life character who demonized them on television and ordered the expropriation of farms and businesses. Many in the middle class cringed at his bombast and complained about rising crime, soaring inflation and government economic controls.

Chavez used his country's vast oil wealth to launch social programs that included state-run food markets, new public housing, free health clinics and education programs. Poverty declined during Chavez's presidency amid a historic boom in oil earnings, but critics said he failed to use the windfall of hundreds of billions of dollars to devel-

op the country's economy. Inflation soared and the homicide rate rose to among the highest in the world.

Before his struggle with cancer, he appeared on television almost daily, frequently speaking for hours and breaking into song or philosophical discourse. He often wore the bright red of his United Socialist Party of Venezuela, or the fatigues and red beret of his army days. He had donned the same uniform in 1992 while leading an ill-fated coup attempt that first landed him in jail and then launched his political career.

Continued on Page 2

Venezuelans in US hopeful of change

CHRISTINE ARMARIO

Associated Press

DORAL, Florida (AP) — Many Venezuelans living in the U.S. celebrated and expressed optimism Tuesday that change would come to their homeland after the death of populist President Hugo Chavez.

Venezuelans watched on TV in suburban Miami as their country's vice president announced the 58-year-old leftist head of the oil-rich Latin American nation had died. Chavez, though cancer-stricken in recent years, had led Venezuela for more than 14 years, espousing his brand of socialism while battling what he called U.S. hegemony in the region.

Many in Florida's large Venezuelan community are stridently anti-Chavez.

At El Arepazo, a popular Venezuelan restaurant in the Miami suburb of Doral, one person cheered, but the rest watched quietly and refrained from any celebration. An hour later, people began arriving with Venezuelan flags, cheering and crying out joyfully. Beneath the jubilation, though, was worry about what happens next.

Though Chavez left a socialist movement in firm control in Venezuela, some question how new leadership will be formed there.

"Although we might all be united here celebration today, we don't know what the future holds," said Francisco Gamez, 18, who showed up at El Arepazo in a track suit adorned with the Venezuelan flag.

Doral has the largest concentration of Venezuelans living in the U.S. Luigi Boria, the city's mayor, said 30 police officers were assigned to monitor reaction and would close some lanes of traffic if necessary.

"We have everything under control right now," he said.

An estimated 189,219 Venezuelan immigrants live in the United States, with 91,091 in the state of Florida, according to U.S. Census figures.

Doral is the heart of the community and affectionately known as "Doralzuela" because of their plethora of Venezuelan businesses catering to the community with authentic foods such as arepas and capachas. A large number of professionals and business people left their country after Chavez became president in 1999, either because they did not agree with Chavez's socialist government or they became frightened by high numbers of killings and kidnappings — or simply to seek better economic fortunes in the U.S. Many still have relatives in Venezuela and travel back regularly to see family and do business.

In October, thousands traveled to New Orleans in order to vote in Venezuela's presidential election. Chavez closed the Miami Venezuelan consulate in 2012 after the State Department expelled consul Livia Acosta.

Mario Di Giovanni, a Venezuelan student activist in Miami who helped organize voters in October, said he was apprehensive but hopeful about Venezuela's future. "I always knew that for things to get better they had to get worse," he said. "So I guess this is the first step toward real change in Venezuela." □

Venezuela's Hugo Chavez dead at 58

Continued from front

The rest of the world watched as the country with the world's biggest proven oil reserves took a turn to the left under its unconventional leader, who considered himself above all else a revolutionary.

"I'm still a subversive," the president told The Associated Press in a 2007 interview, recalling his days as a rebel soldier. "I think the entire world has to be subverted."

Chavez was a master communicator and savvy political strategist, and managed to turn his struggle against cancer into a

turned over the presidency to his brother Raul in 2006. Like Castro, Chavez vilified U.S.-style capitalism while forming alliances throughout Latin America and with distant powers such as Russia, China and Iran.

Chavez emphasized that it was necessary to prepare for any potential conflict with the "empire," his term for the United States. He told the AP in 2007 that he loved the movie "Gladiator."

"It's confronting the empire, and confronting evil. ... And you end up relating to that gladiator," Chavez said as he drove across Venezuela's southern plains.

daughter, Rosines, Chavez had three children from his first marriage, which ended before he ran for office. His daughters Maria and Rosa often appeared at his side at official events and during his trips. He had one son, Hugo Rafael Chavez. After he was diagnosed with cancer in June 2011, he acknowledged that he had recklessly neglected his health. Even as he appeared with head shaved while undergoing chemotherapy, he never revealed the exact location of tumors that were removed from his pelvic region, or the exact type of cancer. Chavez exerted himself for one final election cam-



Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez gives U.S. President Barack Obama a copy of "Las Venas Abiertas de America Latina" during a meeting at the Summit of the Americas in Port of Spain, Trinidad, April 18, 2009. Venezuelan Vice President Nicolas Maduro said on March 5, 2013, that Chavez had died. He was 58.

(Venezuelan Presidency via The New York Times)

rallying cry, until the illness finally defeated him.

From the start, he billed himself as the heir of Bolivar, who led much of South America to independence. He often spoke beneath a portrait of Bolivar and presented replicas of the liberator's sword to allies. He built a soaring mausoleum in Caracas to house the remains of "El Libertador."

Chavez also was inspired by his mentor Fidel Castro and took on the Cuban leader's role as Washington's chief antagonist in the Western Hemisphere after the ailing Castro

He said he felt a deep connection to those plains where he grew up, and that when died he hoped to be buried in the savanna.

"A man from the plains, from these great open spaces ... tends to be a nomad, tends not to see barriers. What you see is the horizon," Chavez said.

Running a revolution ultimately left little time for a personal life. His second marriage, to journalist Mari-sabel Rodriguez, deteriorated in the early years of his presidency, and they divorced in 2004.

In addition to their one

paign in 2012 after saying tests showed he was cancer-free, and defeated younger challenger Henrique Capriles. With another six-year term in hand, he promised to keep pressing for revolutionary changes. But two months later, he went to Cuba for a fourth cancer-related surgery, blowing a kiss to his country as he boarded the plane. After a 10-week absence, the government announced that Chavez had returned to Venezuela and was being treated at a military hospital in Caracas. He was never seen again in public. □

AROUND THE WORLD

Police seize alleged mob-owned resorts

ROME (AP) — Police in Italy have arrested 20 people and seized some 17 seaside resorts along the southern coast in a crackdown on organized crime clans suspected of laundering money through the tourist industry. Italian prosecutor Nicola Gratteri told reporters in Reggio Calabria that two 'ndrangheta crime syndicate clans are believed to have invested illicit revenue in the resorts. Authorities said those arrested Tuesday include two Spanish businessmen with dealings with the 'ndrangheta, which is based in southern Calabria. The seized tourist resorts and vacation homes were valued by authorities at some €450 million (\$600 million).

Mine company stalls Dominican contract

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — The company that operates the huge Pueblo Viejo gold mine in the Dominican Republic is resisting calls from the country's government to renegotiate its royalty contract. Barrick Pueblo Viejo spokesman Jorge Esteva says in a TV interview that renegotiating the 2009 contract is "not on the table." Esteva said in an interview on the Antena Latina TV station that the company is willing to discuss measures to help the Dominican Republic with its budget deficit. Spokesman Andy Lloyd said Tuesday the company is discussing the issue with the government but the contract is legally binding.

Foreign source also linked to horse meat

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Poland's leading veterinarian says that of three cases recently detected of horse meat in beef in Poland, two were from domestic meat processors while the third came from another country. Janusz Zwiazek, Poland's chief national veterinarian, announced last week that horse DNA was found in three samples taken from meat facilities in Poland, with the meat coming from various domestic and foreign suppliers. In a statement Tuesday, Zwiazek said that of the three samples, two came from Polish meat producers and one from another country. He did not name the other country.

Madagascar: Riot erupts after nun killed

ANTANANARIVO, Madagascar (AP) — Police in Madagascar say two protesters were killed in a riot at a prison holding the alleged killers of a French nun. The government is investigating reports that security forces fired on the crowd. Police Lt. Col. Lala Rakotonirina said Tuesday that the unrest happened when a crowd, angry at the death of Sister Marie Emmanuelle Helesbeux, converged on the prison in the town of Mandritsara. Authorities say one of the three suspects owed money to Helesbeux, who was strangled. The interior minister said that "popular justice" and revenge will not bring peace, and that the suspects will be harshly punished if found guilty.

Bulgarian mobster's daughter abducted

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Three masked gunmen on Tuesday kidnapped the 12-year-old daughter of a Bulgarian mobster, an abduction that could be linked to drug trafficking charges he now faces in Italy. Evelin Banev's daughter Lara was getting into a car outside their home in a suburb of the Bulgarian capital, Sofia, when the kidnappers pulled up in an SUV, police said. The abductors shot the driver twice and took the child. Kalin Mihov, a former head of the anti-drug police department, said it's possible the 12-year-old was kidnapped to warn Banev to keep silent at the upcoming trial. □

Dow hits record, erasing recession losses

Continued from front

The Dow record does not include the impact of inflation. Adjusted for that, the Dow would have to reach 15,502 to match its old record.

The Standard and Poor's 500, a broader index, closed at 1,539.79, 25.36 points from its record.

The last time the Dow hit a record, George W. Bush still had another year as president, Apple had just sold its first iPhone, and Lehman Brothers was still in business. But unemployment was also 4.7 percent versus 7.9 percent today, a reminder that stock gains have

Most middle-class wealth is tied up in home values, which are still a third below their peak.

Good economic news Tuesday helped lift stocks. Retail sales in the 17 European countries that use the euro rose faster than expected, China's government said it would support ambitious growth targets, and a report showed U.S. service companies grew last month at their fastest pace in a year.

"It feels great," says Marty Leclerc, chief investment officer at Barrack Yard Advisors, an investment firm. In early 2009, when stocks were plummeting, "it

2007 to its bottom in March 2009, the Dow fell 54 percent. That was far less than the nearly 90 percent drop in the Great Depression but scary nonetheless. There had been 11 previous bear markets since World War II and none had reached 50 percent.

One man who stayed calm and didn't sell was Jay Sachs, 70, a retired computer consultant. In fact, as others scrambled to exit stocks in late 2008, he plunged in more — scooping up drug maker Ely Lilly and Co., health-care products giant Johnson & Johnson and food company General Mills.



Stock traders work at the New York Stock Exchange as the news breaks that the Dow Jones industrial average set an all-time high, Tuesday, March 5, 2013 in New York.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan)

proved no elixir for the economy.

Still, the Dow high is another sign that the nation is slowly healing after the worst recession since the 1930s. It comes as car sales are at a five-year high, home prices are rising, and U.S. companies continue to report big profits.

The stock gains have helped retirement and brokerage accounts held by many Americans recover. That, in turn, has helped push U.S. household wealth nearly back to its peak before the recession, though many in the middle class are still deep in the hole.

looked like Armageddon was nigh. It's a lot more fun to be in a rising market."

In the depths of the recession four years ago, few investors would have predicted such a fast recovery. Some feared another Great Depression. Banks were collapsing, lending was frozen, world trade was plunging, and stocks were in free fall.

"People thought we were going to relive the 1930s," says Robert Buckland, chief global stock strategist at Citigroup. He calls the stock gains since "pretty remarkable."

From its peak in October

"You have to be greedy when others are fearful," he says, quoting a famous line from billionaire Warren Buffett, who also bought in the panic. Sachs adds, "People are still fearful and that's a good sign. There's room for growth."

He says his portfolio has doubled in value in four years.

As stock rebounds go, this has been an unusually quiet and uncelebrated one. Typically, bull markets are accompanied by rising trading volume, a surge in young companies going public and Internet chatter over hot stocks. □



Hagel meets with Israeli minister, pledges support

LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel promised Israel Tuesday that he will work with Congress to ensure continued funding for the Iron Dome missile defense system, a senior defense official said after the Pentagon chief met with Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak. The two-hour session in the Pentagon was Hagel's first meeting with a foreign counterpart.

And it comes less than a week after he took the job amid fierce Republican criticism and accusations from some Republican-leaning outside groups that he was "anti-Israel." The bruising Senate confirmation hearings questioned whether he has been hard enough on Iran, but he repeatedly said he backs U.S. and international sanctions against Tehran. In addition, outside groups slammed his use of the term "Jewish lobby" to refer to pro-Israel groups. He has apologized and says he should have used another term.



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak walk together into the Pentagon as Hagel hosted an honor cordon to welcome Barak to the Pentagon, Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

While it is notable, considering the controversy, that Barak was the first allied counterpart to meet with Hagel, it is not surprising. Barak has been one of the most frequent defense chiefs to visit the Pentagon, meeting often with previous secretaries, including Leon Panetta and Robert

Gates.

The defense official said that Hagel committed to backing funding for the missile defense system — which is largely aimed at protecting against Iran — despite the ongoing fiscal uncertainty due to the \$46 billion in automatic budget cuts that took effect last

Friday.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the conversation between Hagel and Barak was private, said the two men met in private for about one hour and spent another hour in a larger session with staff.

According to Pentagon press secretary George Little, Hagel and Barak also discussed the need for continue cooperation surrounding the ongoing violence in Syria and the need to insure that chemical and biological weapons there remain secure. Hagel also has been in contact by phone with several of his other foreign counterparts this week, including Afghanistan's defense minister, Bismullah Khan Mohammadi. □

US investigates report of drone spotted near NYC

NEW YORK (AP) — The FBI and the Federal Aviation Administration said Tuesday they are investigating a pilot's report that he spotted a small unmanned aircraft near Kennedy Airport. The Alitalia pilot told controllers that he saw the aircraft as he approached a Kennedy runway at about 1:15 p.m. Monday. The pilot said the aircraft was roughly 3 miles (4.8 kilometers) southeast of the airport runway and was flying at an altitude of about 1,750 feet (530 meters). The FBI said the unmanned aircraft was described as black with four propellers and no more than 3 feet (a meter) wide. It came within 200 feet (61 meters) of the Alitalia plane, the FBI said. "The FBI is asking anyone with information about the unmanned aircraft or the

operator to contact us," Special Agent in Charge John Giacalone said. "Our paramount concern is the safety of aircraft passengers and crew."

The Alitalia pilot can be heard on radio calls captured by LiveATC.net, a website that posts air traffic communications, saying, "We saw a drone, a drone aircraft." The FAA said the pilot did not take evasive action and the plane landed safely.

The FAA and FBI did not say whether passengers might have seen the unmanned aircraft.

It's unclear what the small aircraft was. Some remote-controlled planes flown by hobbyists are wider than 3 feet (a meter). Under FAA rules, model planes are restricted to altitudes of 400 feet (122 meters) or less. □

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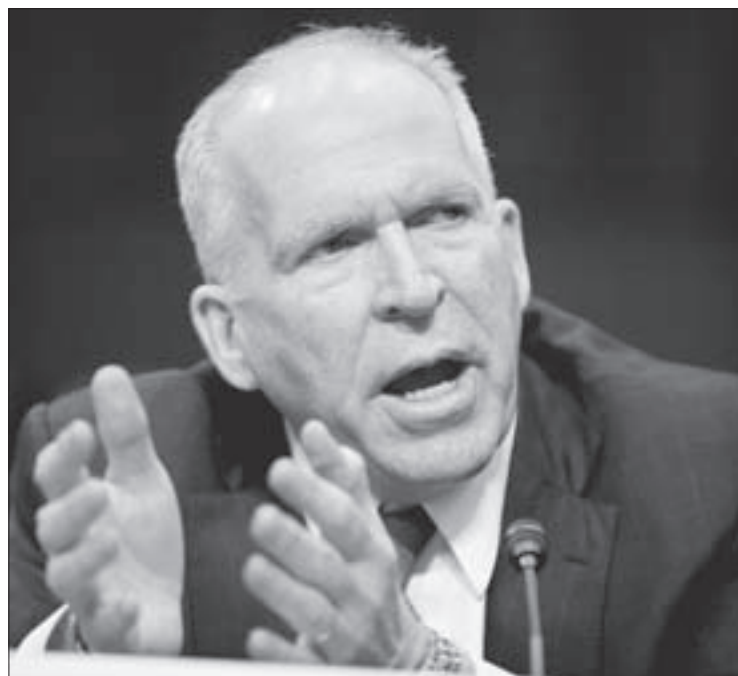
Senate panel approves Obama's CIA nominee

RICHARD LARDNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate Intelligence Committee voted Tuesday to approve President Barack Obama's pick to lead the CIA after winning a behind-the-scenes battle with the White House over access to a series of top-secret legal opinions that justify the use of lethal drone strikes against terror suspects, including American citizens. John Brennan's installation at the spy agency has been delayed as Senate Democrats and Republicans have pressed the Obama administration to allow a review of the classified documents prepared by the Justice Department. The senators have argued they cannot perform adequate oversight without reviewing the contents of the opinions, but the White House had resisted requests for full disclosure. The intelligence committee's chairwoman, Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, said in a statement Tuesday that the committee voted 12-3 to send Brennan's nomination to the full Senate for confirmation. The panel's deliberations were held behind closed doors. Feinstein said all eight Democrats on the committee voted yes. She did not identify the Republican senators who voted against him.

Feinstein said the full Senate should act quickly to confirm Brennan, who spent 25 years at the Central Intelligence Agency before later becoming Obama's top counterterrorism and homeland security adviser in the White House. Sen. Saxby Chambliss, the Republican, the committee vice chairman, said he voted against Brennan because he did not think Brennan would create the kind of "trust relationship" between Congress and the CIA. He did not specify what his concerns were, however. But Chambliss said he would not encourage other Republican senators to attempt to delay the nomination. "He'll probably be con-

firmed," Chambliss said. Although Brennan has made it out of the committee, Republicans have threatened to hold up his nomination unless the



FILE - In this Feb. 7, 2013 file photo, CIA Director nominee John Brennan testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington before the Senate Select Intelligence Committee holding his confirmation hearing. Brennan is one step closer to becoming director of the CIA. The Senate Intelligence Committee voted Tuesday to approve President Barack Obama's pick to lead the spy agency, setting the nomination up for consideration by the full Senate. (AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta, File)

White House supplies them with classified information, including emails among top U.S. national security officials, detailing the Obama administration's actions immediately following the Sept. 11, 2012, attack on the U.S. diplomatic mission in Benghazi, Libya. U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans were killed during the raid. Feinstein said the White House has delivered the "great bulk" of the Benghazi records, and lawmakers are awaiting "a few odds and ends that need to come." The White House released two out of a total of 11 Justice legal opinions to the intelligence committee just hours before Brennan's Feb. 7 confirmation hearing in front of the panel. Two other memos had already been released to

the committee. Feinstein attributed the White House's resistance to providing the memos to a difference of opinion between lawmakers and

the Obama administration over what the documents represented.

"The White House tends to look at this as advice to the president, and therefore that advice is protected," she said. "We looked at it as the legal advice that undermines possible actions of agencies that we are charged with overseeing. So there are different views of this."

Brennan so far has escaped the harsh treatment that former Sen. Chuck Hagel, the president's choice to lead the Defense Department, received from Senate Republicans, even though Brennan is one of Obama's most important national security aides and the White House official who oversees the drone program. □

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Q&A ON THE NEWS

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Q: Will congressional salaries be reduced now that the sequester has taken effect?

-- **Daniel S. Blumenthal, Atlanta**

A: The 27th Amendment prohibits Congress from cutting its pay or giving itself a pay raise during the current term, according to USA Today. Congressional staffs face a possible 22 furlough days, which could result in a 20-percent pay cut, and potential layoffs as a result of the sequester, which went into effect on March 1. The sequester also doesn't affect the pay of President Barack Obama and other top government officials.

Q: When a Pope is elected, does he pick his new name, or is it given by the electors?

-- **Jeff Jones, Cartersville, Ga.**

A: When a pope is elected, the dean of the Sacred College of Cardinals asks him to choose a papal name. The new pope says what name he'll take, and the oldest cardinal announces the new pope from Saint Peter's Basilica, according to CNN.com. Joseph Ratzinger, who stepped down at the end of February, chose Benedict XVI when he was elected in 2005. John (23 times), Benedict (16) and Gregory (16) have been the most popular names for popes.

Q: There was a recent story about a 3-year-old girl confined to a wheelchair who became frightened at a TSA checkpoint. She and her mother got through the checkpoint, but did a TSA staffer confiscate the little girl's stuffed toy and refuse to return it?

-- **Marion G. Webb, Austell, Ga.**

A: TSA agents at Lambert-St. Louis International Airport initially didn't return the stuffed animal, which had been screened, to a 3-year-old who has spina bifida and is confined to a wheelchair. Video taken later showed the girl with her stuffed animal. Annie Schulte, the mother of the girl, began video recording the Feb. 8 incident after a TSA agent said they needed to screen Lucy and her wheelchair. The agent initially told her it was illegal to record the patdown, according to The Associated Press. Agents eventually decided against a patdown and the TSA apologized for the incident.

Q: If a cruise ship becomes stranded at sea, why can't the U.S. Coast Guard send rescue vessels to take the passengers off?

-- **Tim Conner, Austell, Ga.**

A: Carnival Cruise Lines decided to tow the Carnival Triumph to port because it thought it was "too risky" to transfer 3,143 passengers and 1,086 crew members to another ship. "We evaluated a wide range of options, including using another ship to transport guests, but the safest solution was towing the ship back to port," Carnival wrote on its Facebook page. Also, the company didn't have a ship large enough to accommodate the number of passengers and crew, spokesman Vance Gulliksen told CNN.com. The cutter Vigorous was one of several U.S. Coast Guard vessels that assisted the Triumph. Lt. Lily Zepeda, the public affairs officer for U.S. Coast Guard District 8, told Time: "Unfortunately, despite the discomfort, (the Triumph is) probably the safest place for them to be, rather than trying to transfer them back and forth via another method." Time wrote that transferring the Triumph's passengers to another ship would have taken longer than towing the ship to port. The Vigorous launched a smaller response boat that took off one passenger -- who needed emergency kidney dialysis -- from the Triumph. Another passenger was taken off the ship by a Coast Guard helicopter, and a helicopter delivered a generator and electrical supplies to the Triumph. The Vigorous also escorted the Triumph as it was towed to Mobile, Ala. □

In J.C. Penney deal: Martha Stewart denies wrongdoing

A. D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Home decor and food guru Martha Stewart testified in court on Tuesday that she did nothing wrong when she signed an agreement to open shops within most of J.C. Penney's stores across the U.S.

Stewart testified in New York State Supreme Court as part of a legal battle over whether the company that she founded breached its contract to sell cookware, bedding and other items exclusively at Macy's when she inked the deal with Penney in 2011. Stewart, who founded Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., during three hours of testimony, denied Macy's allegations that she did anything unethical in brokering the deal with Penney. She said that she was only looking to expand and offer new opportunities for shoppers. In fact, Stewart said it's Macy's that didn't uphold its end of the agreement to try to maximize the potential of her business. She her brand, which is about a \$300 million business at Macy's, has grown "static" at the department store chain. She said she was hoping the business would exceed well over \$400 million. "We were disappointed," Stewart, wearing a sleeveless jacket and mini skirt, testified. "We did have

hopes that the business would be much bigger ... We got to a certain dollar amount and struggled and never got any further."

ding and bath items. Penney signed a pact in December 2011 with Martha Stewart Living to open shops at most of its 1,100



Martha Stewart testifies at the New York State Supreme Court Tuesday, March 5, 2013 in New York.

(AP Photo/David Handschuh)

The trial, which began Feb. 20, focuses on whether Macy's has the exclusive right to sell some Martha Stewart branded products such as cookware, bed-

stores by this spring. But one month later, Macy's renewed its long-standing exclusive deal until 2018 and sued Martha Stewart Living and Penney. □

US to allow small knives, bats on planes

JOAN LOWY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Airline passengers will be able to carry small knives, souvenir baseball bats, golf clubs and other sports equipment onto planes beginning next month under a policy change announced Tuesday by the head of the U.S. Transportation Security Administration. The new policy conforms U.S. security standards to international standards, and allows TSA to concentrate its energies on more serious safety threats, the agency said in a statement.

The announcement, made by TSA Administrator John Pistole at an airline industry gathering in New York, drew an immediate outcry from unions representing flight attendants and other airline workers, who said the items are still dangerous in the hands of the wrong passengers. Transport Workers Union Local 556, which represents more than 10,000 flight attendants at Southwest Airlines, called the new policy "dangerous" and "short-sighted," saying it was designed to make "the lives of TSA staff easier, but not

make flights safer." "While we agree that a passenger wielding a small knife or swinging a golf club or hockey stick poses less of a threat to the pilot locked in the cockpit, these are real threats to passengers and flight attendants in the passenger cabin," the union said in a statement. The policy change was based on a recommendation from an internal TSA working group, which decided the items represented no real danger, David Castelveter, a spokesman for the agency, said. □

US, China propose tough UN sanctions for NKorea

EDITH M. LEDERER
RON DePASQUALE
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A U.S.-China draft resolution aimed at reining in North Korea's nuclear and ballistic missile program would impose some of the strongest sanctions ever ordered by the United Nations, in a move certain to infuriate the regime and inflame tensions on the Korean Peninsula. The proposed resolution put forward by the United States and China — North Korea's closest ally — followed Pyongyang's third nuclear test on Feb. 12. It reflected the U.N. Security Council's growing anger over the country's defiance of three previous rounds of sanctions aimed at halting all nuclear and missile tests. Pyongyang threatened to cancel the 1953 cease-fire that ended the Korean War in response to the looming fourth round of sanctions.

North Korea insists its nuclear program is a response to American hostility that dates back to the Korean War, which ended with an armistice, not a peace treaty, leaving the Korean Peninsula still technically in a state of war. "North Korea will be subject to some of the toughest sanctions imposed by the United Nations," Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N. said. "The breadth and scope of these sanctions is exceptional and demonstrates the strength of the international community's commitment to denuclearization and the demand that North Korea comply with its international obligations." Rice and China's U.N. Ambassador Li Baodong, who negotiated the text behind closed doors over the last three weeks, predicted speedy approval of the resolution. "The vote will be Thursday — that's the target," Li said. Rice said the coun-

cil hoped for "unanimous adoption." The draft resolution would make it significantly harder for North

Korea to move around the funds it needs to carry out its illicit programs. It would also strengthen

existing sanctions that bar North Korea from testing or using nuclear or ballistic missile technology and from importing or exporting material for these programs. It would strengthen the inspection of suspect cargo bound to and from the country. Many analysts believe that the success of this new round of sanctions depends largely on how well China enforces them. Most of the companies and banks that North Korea is believed to work with are based in China. The Korean People's Army Supreme Command, citing the U.S.-led push for sanctions, threatened Tuesday to cancel the armistice agreement on March 11 because of ongoing U.S.-South Korean military drills that began March 1. □



U.S. Ambassador to China Gary Locke, center, is hit by a video camera as he is mobbed by journalists while attending the opening session of the annual National People's Congress at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The United States and China have reached an agreement on a new draft sanctions resolution to punish North Korea for its latest nuclear test, U.N. diplomats said late Monday.

(AP Photo/Andy Wong)

Former drug chiefs urging US to void legal marijuana

MICHAEL TARM
Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Eight former U.S. drug chiefs warned the federal government Tuesday that time is running out to nullify Colorado and Washington's new laws legalizing recreational marijuana use, and a United Nations agency also urged challenges to the measures it says violate international treaties. The former Drug Enforcement Administration chiefs criticized Barack Obama's administration for moving too slowly to file a lawsuit that would force the states to rescind the legislation. Marijuana is illegal under federal law. "My fear is that the Justice Department will do what they are doing now: do nothing and say nothing," former DEA administrator Peter Bensinger told The Associated Press in an interview Monday. "If they don't act now, these laws will be fully implemented in a matter of months." Bensinger, who lives in the Chicago area,

said if the federal government doesn't immediately sue the states it'll risk creating "a domino effect" in which other states legalize marijuana too. The statement from the DEA chiefs came the same day the International Narcotics Control Board, a U.N. agency, made its appeal in an annual drug report, calling on federal officials to act to "ensure full compliance with the international drug control treaties on its entire territory." But Brian Vicente, co-author of the Colorado pot legalization law, said a handful of North American countries have expressed support for legalization. "You have two states revolting and they're saying it doesn't work in their state and their community and it sends a strong message globally," he said. A lawyer who led Washington's legalization campaign said the focus should be on reconciling the Colorado and Washington votes with federal law and treaty obligations. □



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China's new priority: social wellbeing over growth

GILLIAN WONG
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — China's government pledged Tuesday to repair the country's ravaged environment and boost public services under its new leadership, an acknowledgment that quality of life was sidelined during the outgoing administration's decade of break-neck economic growth.

In a policy speech opening the national legislature's yearly session, soon-to-retire Premier Wen Jiabao went through a list of problems that had built up in recent years and was being left to his successors: a sputtering growth model; poisoned air, waterways and soil; a vast and growing rich-poor gap; and rampant official

services. "If there's an economic downturn and massive unemployment, will the 200 million migrant workers become the main force of the next Cultural Revolution?" he said, referring to the excesses of the chaotic 1966-76 period.

Wen acknowledged the responsibility he and other retiring leaders have for leaving such a tangle of problems, even as they have guided China to prosperity and power on the world stage.

"Some of these problems have built up over time, while others have emerged in the course of economic and social development, and still others have been caused by inadequacies and weaknesses in our government work," Wen said in a 100-minute speech to the nearly 3,000 legislative deputies in the Great Hall of the People, his last address before stepping down.

Though Wen delivered the address, it represents the priorities of the new leadership headed by Communist Party chief Xi Jinping and it underscores the inflection point many Chinese feel the country has reached: The policies that delivered stunning growth are foundering in the ill-effects of corruption and environmental degradation, and many Chinese believe benefits unfairly accrue to a party-connected elite.

The legislative session completes the once-a-decade leadership transition that began four months ago when Xi and other younger leaders were installed as party leaders. The largely ceremonial legislature, known as the National People's Congress, will approve appointments to top government posts to manage the economic and foreign policies, rounding out the team Xi will need to govern. □

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Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao delivers the government work report during the opening meeting of the first session of the National People's Congress at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

(AP Photo/Xinhua, Lan Hongguang)

corruption that has alienated many Chinese.

"Is this a time bomb?" Yao Jianfu, a retirement government researcher, asked. Yao's specialty is China's army of migrant workers who are often deprived of access to housing, education and other government

The unfinished agenda of China's past decade are now central concerns of the new leadership as it seeks to assuage a public that is looking beyond pocket-book issues, empowered by the Internet and increasingly vocal about the need for change.

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Syrian jets bomb northern city overrun by rebels

ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian jets bombed opposition-held buildings Tuesday in the strategic northern city of Raqqa, a day after rebels overran the onetime regime stronghold and captured its provincial governor. A toppled statue of President Bashar Assad's father was defaced with graffiti reading, "Tomorrow will be better."

The rebels continued to battle pockets of government troops in Raqqa, struggling to crush the remaining resistance in the city of 500,000 people on the Euphrates River.

If successful, it would be the first major city they would completely control in the civil war, and it would consolidate their recent gains in the northern Syrian towns along the historic river that runs from Turkey to Iraq.

"This is the beginning, and other Syrian cities will soon fall, one by one God will-

ing," said Mustafa Othman, a Raqqa-based activist who spoke via Skype, with the sounds of gunfire crackling in the background. But government airstrikes

maintain their hold on Raqqa, about 120 miles (195 kilometers) east of the commercial capital of Aleppo.

Rebels have been making

stormed its central prison. On Monday, they swept regime forces from much of the provincial capital, prompting residents to pour into the main square and tear down a large bronze statue of Assad's late father and predecessor, Hafez.

Images of cheering rebels and residents bringing down the statue after tying a rope around its neck were reminiscent of the toppling of the statue of Iraqi dictator Saddam's Hussein in 2003 after U.S. troops stormed Baghdad, signaling the symbolic collapse of his regime.

The Syrians beat the felled statue of Hafez Assad with their shoes in a sign of disrespect, and at least one person hit it repeatedly with a hatchet. Others tore down

a huge portrait of the current president.

In one photo from Raqqa, a man sat on the toppled statue which had been spray-painted with the Arabic phrase, "Tomorrow will be better."

It was a striking scene in a city once considered so loyal to the regime that in November 2011 — early in the 2-year-old uprising — Assad prayed at Raqqa's al-Nour mosque for the Muslim holiday of Eid in an apparent attempt to show that the regime was fully in control there.

Some activists posted the images of the fallen statue on Facebook and Twitter along with the words "Made in Syria," a reference to home-grown nature of the rebellion. □



This citizen journalism image shows Syrian man sitting on a fallen statue of former Syrian President Hafez Assad in a central square in Raqqa, Syria, Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

(AP Photo/Aleppo Media Center AMC)

and intermittent clashes, particularly around two security buildings, raised doubt about whether the rebels would be able to

headway in Raqqa province for weeks. Last month, they captured the country's largest dam west of the city and this week, they

Iran assails criticism, defends nuke talks

NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — An Iranian spokesman on Tuesday said the country's nuclear talks with world powers yielded "positive results" and assailed what he described as "negative" remarks by some Western officials following those negotiations.

According to Ramin Mehmanparast, some Western officials and media outlets are trying to portray the results of the talks last week in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in a bad light because of their own political agenda.

"It is a matter of surprise that some Western and regional countries as well as their media outlets are try-

ing to cast a negative image on the talks, which had positive conclusions," said Mehmanparast, the Foreign Ministry spokesman. He said the Western officials, whom he did not name, were doing this "based on their political viewpoints." He did not elaborate but said the negotiations on Iran's controversial nuclear program could reach a "mutually acceptable conclusion, gradually."

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry warned on Monday in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, that the window of opportunity for a diplomatic solution on Iran's nuclear activities "cannot by definition remain open indefinitely."

Kerry said that "talks cannot become an instrument for delay that will make the situation more dangerous." The Obama administration is pushing for diplomacy to solve the impasse over Iran's nuclear program but has not ruled out the possibility of military intervention in Iran to prevent it from acquiring an atomic weapon. Off-and-on talks between Iran and the world powers — the United States, China, Russia, Britain, France and Germany — began after the six offered Tehran a series of incentives in 2006 exchange for a commitment from Tehran to stop enrichment and other activities that could be used to develop weapons. □



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Second Course

SOUP OF THE DAY
home made

Third Course

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Russia: Police arrest 3 in Bolshoi acid attac

LYNN BERRY

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian police said Tuesday they arrested three men in the acid attack that nearly blinded the artistic director of the Bolshoi ballet, including a star dancer suspected of masterminding the plot. Sergei Filin was left with severe burns to his eyes and face when a masked attacker threw a jar of sulfuric acid in his face as he returned home late on Jan. 17. The 42-year-old former dancer is now undergoing treatment in Germany. Interior Ministry spokesman Anatoly Lastovetsky said Bolshoi soloist Pavel Dmitrichenko is suspected of planning the attack.

Police also arrested the suspected perpetrator of the attack and the man believed to have driven him to and from the scene, the spokesman said.

It was unclear whether either man had any connection to the famed ballet company. Dmitrichenko, who joined the Bolshoi in 2002, has danced several major parts in recent years, including Ivan the Terrible in the ballet of the same name.

Bolshoi Theater spokeswoman Katerina Novikova said management was not aware of a conflict between him and Filin. Channel One state television reported that Dmitrichenko's girlfriend, however, also a Bolshoi soloist, was known

to have been at odds with Filin. The Bolshoi Theater is one of Russia's premier cultural institutions, best known for "Swan Lake" and the other grand classical ballets that grace its stage. But backstage, the ballet company has been troubled by deep intrigue and infighting that have led to the departure of several artistic directors over the past few years.

Filin's colleagues have said the attack could be in retaliation for his selection of certain dancers over others for prized roles. Filin told state television before he checked out of a Moscow hospital that he knew who ordered the attack but would not name the person. □



Former dictator Jorge Rafael Videla attends the first day of the trial for his alleged involvement in the so called operation, Plan Condor, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. Videla has already been sentenced to life imprisonment for crimes against humanity. (AP Photo/Natasha Pisarenko)

Operation Condor trial begins in Buenos Aires

A. CALATRAVA

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Argentina began a long-awaited human rights trial Tuesday focused on Operation Condor, the 1970s conspiracy launched by Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet to enlist South America's dictators in a combined effort to leave no refuge for their leftist critics.

The 25 defendants include former Argentine junta leaders Rafael Videla, 87, and Reynaldo Bignone, 85, both already serving life sentences for multiple human rights violations during the 1976-1983 dictatorship. This time, the charges include criminal association, kidnapping and torture. Also on trial is a former Uruguayan army colonel, Manuel Cordero, who allegedly tortured prisoners inside Automotores Orletti, the Buenos Aires repair shop where many captured leftists were taken to be interrogated under orders from their home countries.

More than 400 witnesses are expected to be called in the two-year trial, which involves 106 victims from at least four countries who were killed in Argentina. The case also includes three Argentines killed in Brazil.

A key piece of evidence is a declassified FBI agent's cable, sent in 1976, that described in detail the conspiracy to share intelligence and eliminate leftists across South America.

The actual conspiracy went further than that: the U.S. government later determined that Chilean agents involved in Condor killed the country's former ambassador Orlando Letelier and his U.S. aide Ronni Moffitt in Washington, D.C., in September 1976, and tracked other exiles across Europe in efforts to eliminate them, as well.

Operation Condor grew to include the military governments of six countries: Chile, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Other Argentine defendants include Santiago Riveros, Carlos Humberto Caggiano Tedesco, Luciano Benjamín Menéndez y Antonio Vanek. Others have died of old age or seen their charges dropped for reasons of poor health.

Because in many cases the bodies of the victims have never been found, Argentine prosecutors argue that the crime of covering up their deaths continues today, and that statutory time limits don't apply.

The victims include Maria Claudia Irureta Goyena, the daughter-in-law of Argentine poet Juan Gelman, who was pregnant while kidnapped and held for months inside Automotores Orletti before an Argentine air force plane took her to Uruguay. She gave birth there, and then was disappeared. Her daughter, Macarena Gelman, recently discovered her own true identity. □

Farmers bring black-flag protest to Athens

DEREK GATOPOULOS

Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece (AP)

— Farmers from across Greece travelled to central Athens on Tuesday, waving black flags to protest austerity cuts that the country's rescue lenders say must be completed quickly.

About 3,000 farmers gathered outside the Agriculture Ministry, travelling from as far as the island of Crete to attend the demonstration against new tax reforms introduced by the conservative-led government, which is struggling

to broaden the tax base to make up for weak revenues.

"The problem is that we no longer make enough money to support our families," Panagiotis Giogas, a peach and asparagus farmer from the northern town of Pella, said as he stood near a group of farmers who made their black flags out of garbage bags.

"We are taxing everything now. It takes a month's income just to fill up the tractor with gasoline," said Giogas, who joined the peaceful rally.

"My father and grandfather worked the same land that I do. But farmers will have to sell their land. It'll turn the country into one with many (people) making great produce into one of a few making mediocre produce."

Greece has one of the largest farming workforces in Europe, relative to its population, at 12.4 percent of the workforce, compared to the eurozone average of 3.5 percent and EU average of 5 percent, according to 2011 data from Eurostat, the EU statistics agency. □



Farmers from Crete stand in front of riot police outside the Agriculture Ministry, during a protest in Athens, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. (AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

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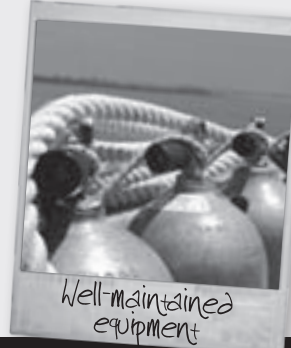
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Playboy magazine launches Hebrew language edition

IAN DEITCH

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israelis can now read Playboy 'for the articles' as a Hebrew language edition came to the holy land Tuesday.

Playboy has been widely available in Israel for years but this marks the first local edition of the magazine. It features Israeli models and articles by Israeli writers.

Owner and publisher Daniel Pomerantz launched Playboy Israel in Tel Aviv on Tuesday at a press conference, standing next to a tall model wearing the trademark ears and tail of a Playboy bunny.

"Our target is men who want a taste of the good life and also women who are curious about the tastes of the men in their lives," Pomerantz said. "I believe that the special formula that has brought Playboy to a rare level of success throughout the world will continue to succeed in my new home Israel." Cover girl Nataly Dadon posed next to a big cut-out of the magazine featuring her on the cover topless in lacy underwear. She said she was happy and excited to be in the first edition of Playboy Israel.

It's not clear how well the magazine will be received in the holy land where religious sensitivities are always simmering under the surface and observant Jews and Muslims live by strict modesty rules. Religious zealots have frequently burned down bus stops with ads of fully dressed women and have prompted major advertisers not to use female models regardless of how modestly they are covered up. Erotica is freely available



A model dressed as a Playboy bunny poses with the first Hebrew language edition of the popular men's magazine in Tel Aviv, Israel, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. Israelis can now read Playboy "for the articles." A U.S. émigré, Daniel Pomerantz, on Tuesday launched the first Hebrew language edition of the popular men's magazine.

(AP Photo/Ariel Schalit)

but not with local talent in Hebrew. The Israeli edition of Penthouse, the traditional and more daring rival of Playboy, flopped when it debuted here in 1989.

Pomerantz said he got the idea for the Hebrew Playboy while working as a lawyer in Chicago where the magazine's headquarters used to be and where he became friends with Playboy lawyers. At the same time he was making

visits to Israel where he decided he wanted to live. It was during a trip to Israel that he noticed the country was lacking a Hebrew edition and so the adventure began.

Pomerantz is confident the magazine will succeed. "Israel is a very complicated country with tradition and modernity and also with serious things and fun fashionable things and that is exactly the character of

Playboy. It is a complicated and beautiful magazine for a complicated and beautiful country," he said. "People will see just from the words Playboy Israel that we are a normal country, fashionable, modern, people who work every day with a passion and if you read Playboy magazine you see that it's not just beauty and fashion but it's also depth and politics and issues, people who care and think about the world they live in," he said. Even in the online age, Playboy's appeal has outlasted many competitors and imitators, selling a lifestyle along with gorgeous models and influential writers. □

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Carmakers skeptical of European recovery this year

**COLLEEN BARRY
S. DILORENZO**

Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — It is still a tough time to be a car-maker. Profits are falling as idle factories produce more costs than cars. Meanwhile in Europe, one the world's leading auto markets, consumers aren't buying new cars.

Yet despite the gloom, automakers began the rollout of new models at the Geneva Motor Show on Tuesday, from a pair of hybrid supercars to a sedan to a raft of smaller SUVs. All done in an attempt to lure buyers back — or at least capture their imaginations. "Our industry is not an industry of rationality. It's also an industry of emotions. It's about brands, it's about attractive cars, it's about power, it's about handling, it's about opinions, it's about status," said Renault CEO Carlos Ghosn said.

But Europe's car industry is finding it harder to recover from the collapse of the car market in 2008 than some of their rivals in the U.S. and Asia. Europeans are buying fewer new cars as their economies grow weakly, or not at all.

New car registrations in Europe dropped 8.5 percent in January — more than anyone was expecting — and that is on top of a decline of 7.8 percent overall last year to 12.5 million units.

Even bedrock Germany, the engine of Europe, was suffering: sales were down 9 percent in January and 10 percent in February, putting Europe's largest economy and home to some of the continent's most important mass market below the 3 million mark.

Auto executives are split over when the European car market will bounce back — or whether it will happen at all. Ford Europe's Stephen Odell and Renault's Ghosn put it at least three years out.

"Europe is going to be a very tough market for a while. It's not about only 2013. It's also about 2014, 2015, 2016," Ghosn said. "The only question is, is it going to be bad or very bad?"

But Fiat and Chrysler CEO Sergio Marchionne expects a turnaround as soon as next year but "a lot of it depends on the political resolve of the Europeans to find a way out of the quagmire."

He said the fact that other executives remain pessimistic means that there was too much idle factory floor space.

In the last year, Ford Europe has begun union talks to shutter factories in Britain and Belgium to reduce capacity 18 percent, or 355,000 vehicles, by the end of next year. PSA Peugeot has announced



A hostess poses in front of a Fiat 500 during the first media day of the 83rd Geneva International Motor Show, Switzerland, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Motor Show will open its gates to the public from March 7 to 17.

(AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani)

it would cut some 8,000 jobs and close one factory, despite government and union resistance. And companies from Toyota Europe to Fiat are shifting their manufacturing footprint to better capture demand.

But unless European consumers start buying again, the industry remains on a collision course.

Marchionne calculates that Europe's four biggest automakers — Ford, PSA Peugeot, Fiat and General

Motors — made a combined operating loss of €5 billion (\$7 billion) in 2012. The automakers' global operations have been, in effect, subsidizing the European losses.

"This is a situation that cannot continue forever," Marchionne said Tuesday. "Something has to give." Marchionne said that if consumer demand doesn't return and individual carmakers don't do more to reduce unused factory capacity, which

hurts competitiveness and margins, "there will be structural failure."

He put the chances at "less than 50 percent," saying he expects there would be state intervention before any player is allowed to fail, but the fact that it was on the lips of European auto executives means the industry is not out of the woods yet.

Ghosn, who runs also Renault's joint venture with Nissan, agrees that European governments won't allow failures of car companies, important employers and economic mainstays.

"I don't see a collapse of a car manufacturer but I see probably more government intervention to prevent employment tragedies," he said.

To add to Europe's concerns, a new Chinese player was on the Geneva floor. Qoros, a joint venture between Chinese automaker Chery and Idan Ofer of the Israel Corporation, was showing a sedan it plans to begin selling in Europe next year.

"I worry about them all the time," Marchionne said. "They are not going away either. So welcome." □

Kia concept car 'Provo' reminds Irish of terror

DUBLIN (AP) — Kia's new concept car, Provo, is designed to provoke comment. But to many across Ireland, the name sounds too much like a celebration of terrorism.

Lawmakers from Northern Ireland formally appealed Tuesday for the South Korean carmaker to junk the name of its planned super-mini sports coupe because "Provo" is the nickname for the dominant branch of the outlawed Irish Republican Army, the Provisional IRA.



Featured is Kia's new concept car, Provo, designed to provoke comment, according to the automaker. It is doing just that throughout Ireland as the name raises the specter of the IRA. (Handout Photo)

Kia insists the name is supposed to suggest "provocative," not IRA bombings and shootings.

The car prototype has been unveiled for the International Geneva Motor Show and is years away from production.

Kia is hardly the first automaker to stumble when naming cars for global sale.

In Spanish, Chevy's Nova means "doesn't go," Mazda's LaPutra translates as "the whore," and the Nissan Moco as "booger." □



For the 2013 season:

A nation of support boosts Team Aruba's confidence!

ORANJESTAD/UNION, SC - Spending the off season in Aruba certainly has its perks, but Trevor Eman and the Aruba.com / Alltel Wireless Extreme Pro Stock Team are now back state-side and visions of sandy beaches are quickly being replaced with shining trophies as they prepare for this weekend's ADRL Drag-palooza IX.

"After a demanding race season a break to regroup and refocus is always needed," told Eman. "We are just fortunate enough to do it that in our island paradise home. An Aruban vacation would do every drag racer good. Now, however, it's time to buckle down and prepare ourselves to do some winning this season.

"The car went back to Jerry Haas Race Cars for some updates this winter, and also to SD Enterprises paint shop to have the paint job touched up where necessary. We've gone over the car thoroughly ourselves to make sure everything is

completely ready. We're ready to tackle another race season!"

Alltel Wireless is joining the Aruba.com Mustang for

"We couldn't be more thrilled to have Alltel back with us for the third straight year," added Eman. "It is certainly a morale booster

display. Stop by to check out Alltel's newest deals and show your support!" With the newly formed X-DRL, there are now two

both series:

"We are going to commit to the ADRL series and run a couple of X-DRL races that work out easily in our travels between the ADRL races. The traveling back and forth to Aruba in between races will make it difficult to hit them all, but we're excited for what both of these series have to offer this year.

"The whole team is very eager to get the season started. The team chemistry I feel is working real well, and I think that will show this season with some positive results. We have support from all over - even the airport! By this time, many people at the airport in Aruba know us and they are cheering us on and wishing us luck. That is certainly very motivating. They want to see us take home the trophy just as bad as we do. "We just can't wait to get to the track this weekend!" Join team Aruba on March 6th at Alltel Wireless, 1788 E Broad Ave, Rockingham, NC 28379. □



the third straight season. Trevor and team will be on display at the Alltel Wireless store in Rockingham, N.C. on Wednesday March 6th.

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eighth mile drag racing series available to Extreme Pro Stock teams for the first time ever. Eman and team have hopes to run some of

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HOOIBERG - Starting coming Monday and each Monday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. you can see a fantastic entertainment show at the Aruba Waterpark which is located just behind the Aruba's Haystack. Come and see the show in a different cozy ambiance far from the hotels and where you can find yourself in an beautiful Aruban Cunuco landscape surrounded with a cool Aruba's breeze. The show includes free Arubus transportation from your hotel to the show and back to your hotel, a free BBO and a free drink. All visitors will also receive a

free lit flower necklace and a free Pirates Paradise Aruba lit keychain. There will be a great performance of a local big band and singer playing Caribbean music at the wishes of all who loves Caribbean music at the best. Also you can enjoy a live steel band playing some great Aruban tunes. Furthermore there will be soca and limbo dancers and a funny ceremony master full of jokes that will keep you busy entertaining you the whole night long. From the beginning until the end you will be enjoying the show. Please don't forget to



bring your camera or video player with you so you can make some nice shots of pirates in costumes, beautiful landscape and most of all your family or friends presence at the show. Come and see and enjoy an unforgettable Pirates Show while you are on a pleasant vacation on the island. Reservations can be made through your hotel concierges or by just calling us directly by phone number 582-6432 from Monday to Friday between 10 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. As we all say in Aruba "Bon Bini" to our fun and Happy Pirates Paradise Entertainment Show □

The Boardwalk Hotel:

Aruba resort on US Today List of Caribbean Hidden Gems

PALM BEACH - Just last week US Today published its own list of 9 Caribbean hidden gem hotels.

Aruba's charming Boardwalk Hotel was one of them, as discovered by Oyster.com, a website which inspects every one of its finds personally.

The favorable mention came as no surprise to those who already experienced this truly special spot that is intimate, unrushed and unpretentious. Of course some people like to brag to their friends about their insider information while others prefer to keep it all to themselves, in this case, US TODAY gave the property a prominent listing singing the praises of the flowering garden-setting just across from the Marriott Aruba Hotel and Stellaris casino, on the site of a former coconut plantation.

The 14 spacious, air-conditioned casitas of the Boardwalk Hotel have recently been tastefully redecorated in a re-



laxed coastal style. They now boast large walk-in showers and closets, fully equipped kitchens with 4pit stoves, microwave ovens, blenders, toasters, and coffeemakers, flat-screen TVs, and fine white linens. The property also offers beach towels, coolers, chairs, and umbrellas, and each of the rooms is

graced by a comfortable private patio with dining set, charcoal grill and a hammock.

The outdoor tropical pool, Jacuzzi and cushioned lounge areas, attract resident vacationers all day, and allow for lively social interaction especially on Friday afternoon for the Manager's Rum Punch

giving invaluable local information as well as booking massage and nail services on-site, upon request. Located within walking distance to Palm Beach for swimming, and to Fisherman's Huts for daredevil wind and kite surfing, the Boardwalk hotel offers free use of snorkel equipment, beach gear and toys for kids, besides the free use of eight tennis courts and a fitness club at the nearby Tennis Club. Free Wi-Fi and ample parking round up the list of favorite add-ons. While there are no restaurants or bars in house, Stephanie is a living and breathing encyclopedia



Party. The colorful property remains at oasis of calm, as it is managed by a cute pair of twins, from Belgium, with Kimberly Rooijackers in charge of hotel operations and her sister Stephanie directing reservations and guests relations. They both excel at what they do and the hotel's Trip Advisor ratings attest to the fact that the sisters forge excellent relationships with all their guests, arranging tours and

on dining on Aruba and you may trust her recommendations. If in the mood for nightlife and diversion, nearby Palm Beach is filled with bustling restaurants, casinos and entertainment options.

The list of nine hidden gem hotels published by US Today also included two properties in Jamaica, and one each in the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, St Lucia, Virgin Gorda, Turks and Caicos and Barbados.

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Red Sail Sports Aruba Announces: Suzanne van Grinsven on board as Marketing & Events Manager

PALM BEACH - Red Sail Sports takes pride in announcing the appointment of Suzanne van Grinsven to the position of Marketing and Events Manager. Red Sail Sports is extremely happy to welcome Suzanne to their management team. "We know that with her strong background and expertise, she will be a tremendous asset - not only to the company, but to Aruba as a whole," according to Peter de Hoop, owner of Red Sail Sports Aruba. Originally from The Netherlands, Suzanne has 4 years of tourism industry experience. She is a graduate of the "Christelijke Hogeschool Leeuwarden" in the Netherlands, and holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Hospitality Management. She ran her internship in 2006 at Sandals Grande Antigua Resort & Spa and worked as the Sales and Marketing coordinator at Tierra del Sol Resort between November 2009 and February 2013. Red Sail Sports is Aruba's leading tour operator, offering a wide range of activities including catamaran sails and scuba diving. Red Sail Sports' newest activity is JETLEV, a jet pack with which you can literally fly over the ocean, soar up to 30 feet in the air... or hover and walk along the water. JETLEV is unlike any thrill ride you'll ever experience and exclusively available at Red Sail Sports. More information on Red Sail Sports can be found at www.redsailaruba.com. □



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CASINO AND SHOPS

The Casino at the Radisson Celebrates March Madness

PALM BEACH - The Casino at the Radisson is providing guests with an enjoyable sports betting experience, at the casino lounge, with room to view the TV screens and otherwise catch a wide variety of sporting events which will be offered in the coming months.

Starting with March Madness guests of the casino may place their bets from the convenient, self-service sport betting kiosk capable of delivering any race or sport event in real time.

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and weekends from 11am to 4am.

The self-service sport betting kiosk asks customers to follow a simple set of instructions and also processes bets well into the future with an option for customers to collect their winnings on sporting events taking place in the coming months.

Immediately following March Madness pitching 66 teams against each other, the Masters Golf Tournament will unfold in April.

The Kiosk will also provide self serve betting, access to handicapping services and sports information on the summer baseball games, as well as College and NFL football.

Soccer lovers may follow the World Cup in Brazil and bet on their favorite teams including a full range of complimentary services such as ticket and event reservations. The sports book betting kiosk is ready to serve customer seven days a week. □



Wade, James lead Heat to record 15th straight win

Miami Heat's LeBron James dunks in the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Minnesota Timberwolves Monday, March 4, 2013, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press
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This is an undated file photo showing Jack Johnson. Lawmakers seeking a presidential pardon for Johnson, the world's first black heavyweight boxing champion imprisoned a century ago for his romantic relationships with white women, are renewing their efforts. Associated Press

Renewed push for Jack Johnson pardon

ANDREW MIGA
Associated Press
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. lawmakers seeking a presidential pardon for Jack Johnson, the first black world heavyweight boxing champion imprisoned a century ago for his romantic relationships with white women, renewed their efforts on Tuesday. Senators Harry Reid, John McCain and William "Mo" Cowan joined congressman Peter King to introduce a resolution urging President Barack Obama to pardon Johnson because he was wronged by a racially motivated conviction.

Continued on page 20



IT'S A MISTAKE

McIlroy admits he should not have walked off

Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy reacts after hitting out of the bunker onto the 18th green and just missing the pin in the first round against Shane Lowry, of Ireland, during the Match Play Championship golf tournament, Thursday, Feb. 21, 2013, in Marana, Ariz. Associated Press
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Rory McIlroy says leaving course a mistake

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida (AP) — Rory McIlroy says he should have finished his second round at the Honda Classic, telling Sports Illustrated magazine that "it was not the right thing to do" to walk out after eight holes of his second round.

McIlroy was 7-over for the round and headed toward another missed cut when he hit his second shot into the water on the 18th and abruptly withdrew without finishing the hole. On his way to the parking lot, he reports that his head was not in the right place. He later issued a statement that his wisdom tooth was causing pain.

"It was a reactive decision," McIlroy told the magazine in a telephone interview Sunday night. "What I should have done is take my drop, chip it on, try to make a 5 and play my hardest on the back nine, even if I shot 85. What I did was not good for the tournament, not good for the kids and the fans who were out there watching me. It was not the right thing to do."

The 23-year-old from Northern Ireland said his lower wisdom teeth



Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, watches his tee shot on the 10th hole during the first round of the Honda Classic golf tournament, Thursday, Feb. 28, 2013, in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.
Associated Press

are growing sideways and he has been prescribed a painkiller, which he did not use Friday. Even so, he said it was frustration over his swing that led to him leaving.

McIlroy switched to Nike equip-

ment late last year after signing an endorsement contract said to be upward of \$20 million a year. The world's No. 1 player says his swing has been a bigger problem than the new clubs, and he was prac-

ticing with swing coach Michael Bannon the afternoon that he withdrew.

McIlroy said he did not read any stories about his departure over the weekend because "whatever people are saying, I probably already said to myself."

He is playing the Cadillac Championship at Doral this week and is to speak to the media on Wednesday.

McIlroy is assured of playing four rounds in this World Golf Championship (which has no cut) for the first time all year. He missed the cut in Abu Dhabi, lost in the first round of the Match Play Championship and played only 26 holes of the Honda Classic.

McIlroy, who has joined Tiger Woods in the Nike stable and has studied the 14-time major champion his whole life, said he wishes he could have been like Woods on Friday.

"He might be the best athlete ever, in terms of his ability to grind it out," McIlroy told the magazine. "I could have a bit more of that, if I'm honest." □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

NHL Capsules

Malkin fuels rally, Pens top Lightning 4-3

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin scored less than 2 minutes apart in the third period and the Pittsburgh Penguins rallied past the Tampa Bay Lightning 4-3 on Monday.

Chris Kunitz added his 12th of the season for Pittsburgh and James Neal scored an empty-net goal in the final minute as the Penguins sent the struggling Lightning to their fifth straight loss.

Malkin, making his return after missing four games due to a concussion, tied it 5:38 into the third period on a pretty breakaway. Crosby put Pittsburgh in front moments later with a slap shot from the slot that zipped past Anders Lindback and into the net.

Tampa Bay's Steven Stamkos scored twice to push his league-leading total to 17, but it wasn't enough to stop the Lightning's slide.

Maple Leafs 4, Devils 2

TORONTO (AP) — Nazem Kadri continued his points streak Monday with a goal and an assist against the struggling Devils.

Clarke MacArthur, Jay McClement and Phil Kessel — with his first goal on home ice this season — scored in the third period for Toronto. Kadri connected in the first period and assisted on MacArthur's goal to earn points in his fifth straight

game.

The 22-year-old Kadri leads the Leafs with 23 points in 23 games.

James Reimer, making his first appearance at Air Canada Centre since Feb. 11 after a mild knee ligament strain, made 28 saves for the win.

Marek Zidlicky scored twice for New Jersey, which hasn't won in five games. Ryan Carter assisted on both goals and Johan Hedberg stopped 19 shots for the Devils.

Coyotes 5, Ducks 4, SO

GLENDALE, Arizona (AP) — Defenseman Oliver Ekman-Larsson scored in the fifth round of the shootout and Mike Smith stopped Bobby Ryan to help Phoenix. Andrew Vermette, Shane Doan, Michael Stone and Keith Yandle scored for the Coyotes in regulation. Phoenix also beat the Pacific Division-leading Ducks 5-4 in a shootout Saturday night.

Steve Sullivan also scored in the shootout for Phoenix, which has won three of four.

Ryan Getzlaf had a goal, two assists and scored in the shootout, and Ryan, Corey Perry and Matt Beleskey scored for the Ducks, who have lost consecutive games for the first time this season.

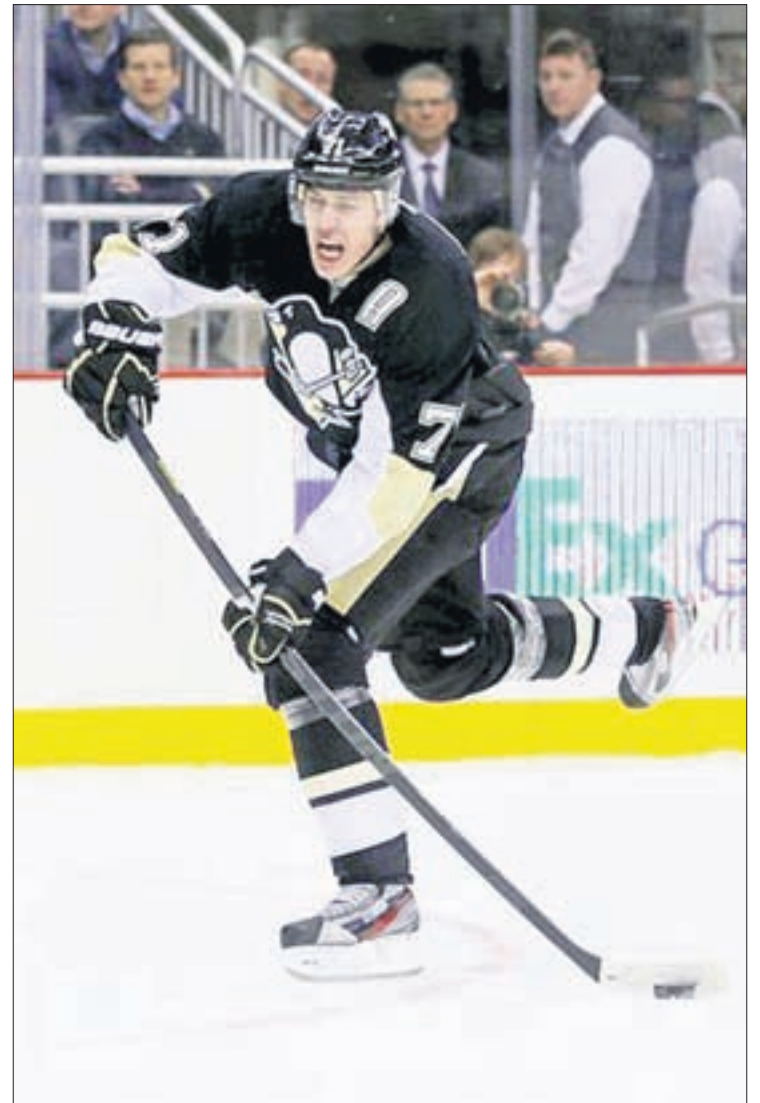
The teams traded four goals over a six-minute stretch of the third period.

Kings 5, Predators 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jeff Carter completed his fifth career hat trick with two goals in a 19-second span of the third period, and the Kings beat the Predators despite taking only 16 shots on net.

Jonathan Bernier made 18 saves and has won five consecutive starts for the first time in his NHL career, equaling his entire win total from last season in 16 games.

The five-year veteran didn't play at all during the Kings' Stanley Cup championship run as Jonathan Quick captured the Conn



Pittsburgh Penguins center Evgeni Malkin (71) gets off a slap shot in the second period of an NHL hockey game against the Tampa Bay Lightning in Pittsburgh, Monday, March 4, 2013.

Associated Press

Smythe Trophy as postseason MVP.

Mike Richards and Dwight King also scored during a

four-goal third period and defenseman Slava Voynov had a career-high three assists. □

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NBA Capsules

Wade, James lead Heat to record 15th straight win

The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Dwyane Wade had 32 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists, LeBron James shrugged off a sore left knee to score 20 points and grab 10 rebounds, and the Miami Heat earned their franchise-record 15th straight victory with a 97-81 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Monday night.

Chris Bosh added 11 points and nine rebounds, and James played 35 minutes despite being listed as a game-time decision with a twisted left knee.

Derrick Williams had 25 points and 10 rebounds and Ricky Rubio had 14 points, eight assists, six steals and five rebounds for the Timberwolves. J.J. Barea had four points on 1-for-11 shooting and was ejected in the fourth quarter after getting a Flagrant-2 foul for a hit on Heat guard Ray Allen. Minnesota was down six points with eight minutes to play when Barea was ejected. Officials initially ruled it a Flagrant 1, but changed the call upon reviewing it, eliciting strong protests from Barea and Wolves coach Rick Adelman, who also picked up a technical foul.

KNICKS 102, CAVALIERS 97 CLEVELAND (AP) — Amare Stoudemire scored 22 points, J.R. Smith added 18 and New York overcame a 22-point deficit without All-Star Carmelo Anthony to

beat Cleveland.

Steve Novak made three of New York's seven 3-pointers in the fourth quarter as the Knicks rallied and shook off a tough home loss on Sunday, when they blew a 16-point lead to Miami.

The Knicks trailed 52-30 in the second quarter of this one when Anthony injured his right knee. He stumbled and fell awkwardly after catching a pass and did not return.

Kyrie Irving scored 22 points in his return after missing Cleveland's past three games with a hyperextended right knee.

MAGIC 105, HORNETS 102 NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Aron Afflalo scored five of his game-high 26 points in the final 38 seconds, and Orlando snapped a three-game skid.

Jameer Nelson, returning from a left knee injury that sidelined him six games, scored 15 points and Tobias Harris also scored 15 for Orlando, which trailed by as many as 17 points in the second half and erased a nine-point deficit during the final 3:15.

Afflalo scored 11 of his points in the fourth quarter, including an 11-foot turnaround over Eric Gordon in the lane that gave Orlando the lead for good at 101-100.

Afflalo hit two free throws soon after to make it 103-100, but found himself back on the free-throw line in a one-point game with 12



Miami Heat's LeBron James shoots as Minnesota Timberwolves' Greg Stiemsma, right, and Mikael Gelabale, left, of France, defend in the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, March 4, 2013, in Minneapolis.

Associated Press

seconds left after Anthony Davis' tip-in made it 103-102.

Afflalo missed his second of two free throws, but Harris got the offensive rebound and hit one of two free throws to make it a three-point game with 10.6 seconds left.

BUCKS 109, JAZZ 108, OT MILWAUKEE (AP) — Monta Ellis scored 34 points, Brandon Jennings added 20 points and 17 assists, and Milwaukee beat Utah in

overtime.

J.J. Redick scored 17 for the Bucks, including their first eight in overtime. Milwaukee won its fourth consecutive game after dropping three in a row following the All-Star break.

Larry Sanders chipped in with eight points, 16 rebounds and six blocked shots for Milwaukee.

Derrick Favors tied a career high with 23 points and added 15 rebounds for Utah, which lost for the

fourth time in five games. Paul Millsap had 22 points and 14 rebounds, Alec Burks added 19 points and Enes Kanter had 18 points. **NUGGETS 104, HAWKS 88**

DENVER (AP) — Corey Brewer scored 22 points and Ty Lawson had 18 in Denver's win over Atlanta.

The Nuggets won their 11th straight game at the Pepsi Center and matched Miami's NBA-best 26-3 home record, but for most of three quarters it wasn't the cakewalk many expected against a banged-up, tired team playing the final game of a six-game trip.

Eventually, they ran out of gas and bodies, though.

Al Horford scored 18 points for Atlanta, and Josh Smith chipped in 15 points, becoming the 24th player in league history to collect 10,000 points, 5,000 rebounds, 2,000 assists and 1,000 blocks. His milestone came on a night when many of his teammates were spectators as the Hawks were without Kyle Korver (toe), Zaza Pachulia (sore right Achilles) and DeShawn Stevenson, who skipped the second game of this back-to-back like he normally does because of balky knees.

TRAIL BLAZERS 122, BOBCATS 105

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge had 23 points and 14 rebounds, and Portland handed Charlotte its seventh straight loss. □

Viviani leads Paris-Nice as Kittel wins 2nd stage

CERILLY, France (AP) — German rider Marcel Kittel won the second stage of the Paris-Nice race on Tuesday in a sprint finish against Elia Viviani, who took the overall race leader's yellow jersey.

Kittel completed the 200.5-kilometer (124-mile) flat trek from Vimory to Cerilly in 5 hours, 42 minutes, 18 seconds. Viviani and third-place Leigh Howard of Australia clocked the same time.

Viviani took the jersey from first stage winner Nacer Bouhanni of France, who was forced to pull out of the race with a bloodied face after crashing onto the pavement. He was taken away on a stretcher for a check-up.

Damien Gaudin, winner of Sunday's prologue, also crashed but got back on his bike despite cuts and bruises to his left thigh and arm. □



Marcel Kittel of Germany wins the second leg of the Paris-Nice cycling race, between Vimory and Cerilly, central France, Tuesday, March 5, 2013.

Associated Press

Jack Jhonson

Continued from page 17

"Jack Johnson was a legendary competitor who defined an era of American boxing and raised the bar for all American athletics," Reid said. "Johnson's memory was unjustly tarnished by a racially motivated criminal conviction, and it is now time to recast his legacy." A similar resolution passed both houses of Congress in 2009, but Obama did not act on it. The Justice Department has told the bill's backers its general

policy is not to process posthumous pardon requests. The White House declined to comment on Tuesday on the measure. He was hated by many white Americans, especially after retaining his title by defeating white boxer Jim Jeffries in the 1910 "Fight of the Century." Johnson's victory sparked deadly race riots across the country. Three years later, Johnson was convicted of violating the Mann Act, which made it illegal to transport women across state lines for immoral purposes. □



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UNIQUE SPORTS
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Mushers welcome rest at Alaska wilderness villages

ROHN, Alaska (AP) — Imagine standing on a sled behind a team of 16 dogs, traveling mile after desolate mile in the Alaska wilderness without any sign of other human life. All of a sudden, lights shine off in the distance, the first village to come into view in a very long time. Whether it's a single cabin or a booming village of several hundred people, for mushers on the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, the villages are not only checkpoints to eat, rest and recharge, but a chance to interact with someone other than their dogs. "There are no checkpoints that I dislike," said defending champion Dallas Seavey. "Every time you come around the corner and see the lights of a checkpoint approaching, it's a great sight."

Four-time champion Martin Buser rested at the checkpoint in Rohn after a blistering fast 170-mile run that had put him hours ahead of the other teams. Buser was taking his mandatory 24-hour rest there, watching other mushers arrive and leave. That put Aaron Burmeister in the lead Tuesday morning. He was the first to pull into the Nikolai checkpoint 75 miles past Rohn, arriving at 8:11 a.m. Running second was Paul Gebhardt, who left Rohn at 7:26 p.m. Monday, followed by Aliy Zirkle four minutes later. There are 26 checkpoints along the 1,000-mile trail from Anchorage to Nome, and for last year's runner-up Aliy Zirkle, the welcomes they receive are truly Alaska events: Villagers greet the dogs first.

"And it's an open-armed greeting, where they want to make sure all the dogs are OK, and they get straw for them and food for them," said Zirkle, running her 13th Iditarod. The checkpoints serve a purpose. Veterinarians staff the checkpoints to examine the dogs, and race officials make sure the mushers are fit to continue. Mushers are required to take three mandatory rest periods during the race. The village of Takotna is becoming a popular place for mushers to take the longer rest period. It comes 329 miles into the race, at a time when the dogs are ready for a break and mushers need a good meal. And why not at a foodie village? The town of about



Angie Taggart rests in a musher tent at the Finger Lake checkpoint in Alaska during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on Monday, March 4, 2013. Associated Press

50 people on the Takotna River is renowned for filling the school gym with homemade pies, moose stew, moose chili, steaks and made-to-order breakfasts for grateful mushers. Seavey takes his 24-hour layover at Takotna, where the town's volunteers pro-

vide mushers hot food and other things that might seem minor, such as "a microwave with a hot wet towel to take care of a quick — well, I wouldn't call it a shower, but wipe your face off and get some of the grime off your hands and face." □



The Netherlands' second baseman Jonathan Schoop bunts against Australia in the fourth inning of their World Baseball Classic first round game at the Intercontinental Baseball Stadium in Taichung, Taiwan, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The Netherlands won 4-1. Associated Press

JIM ARMSTRONG
AP Sports Writer

FUKUOKA, Japan (AP) — Ray Chang drove in two runs Tuesday as China rallied with five runs in the bottom of the eighth to beat Brazil 5-2 in Group A of the World Baseball Classic.

Brazil led 2-0 in the eighth but China scored its first run on a bases-loaded walk before Chang hit a soft fly ball to left field that scored two and gave the Chinese a 3-2 lead. China added two more runs on bases-loaded

World Baseball Classic China beats Brazil 5-2

walks before Lu Jiangang recorded the final out. With the win, China improved to 1-2 and earned a spot in the next Classic, while Brazil (0-3) will be forced to qualify for the next tournament. Japan plays Cuba on Wednesday in the final game of Group A. Both teams have already advanced to the March 8-12 second round at Tokyo Dome. **Netherlands beats Australia 4-1** **TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)** — Jonathan Schoop's two-run homer helped give the Netherlands a 4-1 victory over Australia on Tuesday and secure a spot in the next round of the World Baseball Classic.

The win gave the Dutch a 2-1 record in Group B and made sure they will play in the second round in Tokyo. Schoop's homer capped a three-run second inning for the Dutch. Starting pitcher Robbie Cordemans allowed two hits in five innings for the win. Host Taiwan faced South Korea later Tuesday in a game that will determine which of the two teams advances to Tokyo. Australia finished at 0-3. Brad Harman had a ninth-inning drive to left for Australia with two on that was snagged on the warning track by Randolph Oduber, preserving the Dutch win. **S. Korea beats Taiwan 3-2**

TAICHUNG, Taiwan (AP) — South Korea was knocked out in the group stage of the World Baseball Classic on Tuesday despite Kang Jung-ho hitting a two-run homer with two out in the bottom of the 8th inning in a 3-2 victory over Taiwan. Taiwan, the Koreans and the Netherlands all finished Group B with 2-1 records, but the Taiwanese and the Dutch advanced on a run differential tiebreaker. Australia (0-3) was last in the group. Kang's home run came off former Los Angeles Dodgers reliever Kuo Hung-chin, who gave up all three of the Koreans' runs in the 8th. Taiwan's Yang Dai-kang had an RBI and a run scored on two singles. □

Fasting, Religious Wisdom

Based on a chapter in *Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine*, By Carlos M. Viana



Dr. Carlos M. Viana

Religious dietary recommendations, sometimes prohibitions, like folk sayings and remedies have an uncanny insight into the human condition. As a clinical nutritionist, I enjoy trying to unravel the basis for these laws. Likewise, I am interested in traditional methods of cooking foods. Why do spinach and potatoes or cloves and ham seem to go so naturally together? Spinach, a great natural source of iron, contains oxalic acid which can raise uric acid and aggravate a gout attack. However, cooked and eaten with potatoes, the alkalizing quality of potatoes reduces inflammation and prevents a uric acid reaction. Meanwhile, everyone knows that pork has to be cooked well because these animals may more easily become infected with bacteria and parasites. Cloves, used traditional pork recipes, have natural oils that kill bacteria and parasites. Interestingly, reflecting the dietary prohibitions of the Old Testament, medically, we have found pork to be detrimental to all metabolic blood types.

Spring reminds me

that every major world religion and many indigenous belief systems incorporate fasting at this time. "Fasting" means abstaining from food or some types of food. The idea of the fasting in spring has been fixed firmly in all religious disciplines as a mechanism to purify oneself and become more receptive to their deity's message. The Christian Bible has thirty three passages about fasting during what they call the Lenten season. Pope John Paul II stated that Penitential fasting is therapy for the soul. In fact, for Catholics all days of Lent are supposed to be fasting days. Muslims throughout the world will be fasting during the sacred month of Ramadan. The Jewish fast of the firstborn takes place in the spring, during Passover.

As a natural physician I am aware that beyond religious faith, fasting is an ancient healing strategy. Many traditional cultures, including Oriental, East Indian, and Native American, have long regarded short periods of abstaining from food as curative and revitalizing. Hippocrates prescribed fasting. Fasting was practiced by Plato, Socrates and Mahatma Gandhi. In modern Europe, clinics that support therapeutic fasting are quite common. In Sweden it's practically a national sport.

Proponents of fasting offer thousands of testimonials from recovered asthmatics, arthritics, insomniacs, ex-sufferers of migraines, skin, digestive disorders, and other ailments. They maintain that with the

exception of serious conditions like tuberculosis, ulcers, diabetes, hypoglycemia, blood, liver, kidney and heart diseases- systematic voluntary abstention from eating is almost always a healthy first response to illness. One of my medical heroes whose influence prompted me to become a colon hydrotherapist, Dr. Bernard Jensen, has supervised over 50,000 fasts at his center in Escondido, CA.

There are two kinds of fasting. The "water fast" induces rapid internal purification, but shocks the system. Dr. Rudolph Ballentine, MD., author of "Diet & Nutrition - A Holistic Approach," says that the average American lacks the proper reserve nutrients necessary for healthy water fast. Dr. Ballentine recommends a supervised, gradual "juice fast" using natural vegetable and fruit juices to provide essential vitamins to sustain metabolism, and minerals which neutralize and removed toxins that are released.

Although abstaining from food is often not as difficult as you may imagine, it is useful to plan ahead. Having medical supervision is the safest way to start your fast. Fasting is not recommended at times of high stress. During the first two days, when you may feel weak and out of sorts, it's nice to be able to be with supportive loved ones, and to rest when you feel like it. Acupuncture works very well to support you through this "rough" period.

One should begin to reduce portion amounts

and eat lighter foods several days before all solid food is eliminated. While fasting, be sure to drink enough water to internally wash the system. Enough is: 1 qt/ 90 lbs of body weight (1 lt./ each 30kg). Colonic irrigation not only augments the cleansing process, it also helps to hydrate the body.

At Viana Healing Center we routinely supervise patients through a fast where, besides water, only brown rice is eaten for two weeks. Eating no proteins or fats, your body will begin to quickly break down its own excess deposits. This not only helps with weight loss, but we've seen it drastically improve skin, allergies, colon and other problems. The duration of a fast depends on one's medical condition, body weight, lifestyle and other individual factors. In many of our supervised patients, we combine the brown rice fast with periods of taking light, natural foods, almost exclusively vegetables.

If you are one of the people on the list above, not healthy enough to completely fast, but would like to eliminate or reduce certain food for religious or health reasons, be sure to be checked by a professional. Consult with a clinical nutritionist to help you make the right food choices in the safest way. Sometimes, eliminating red meat, dairy and/or gluten containing products like wheat, can drastically improve your health. Adding dietary supplements might be recommended. Always read labels to make sure your vi-

tamins are free from artificial or unwanted ingredients like sugar and starch fillers. Get the Point! As a student of ecclesiastical discipline I see that the religious obligation of fasting is rarely observed in its integrity nowadays. What a pity, fasting brings into harmony our mind, soul and body. Fasting and abstaining from excessive food results in the lightening of the capabilities of the mind and the soul. Come in so we can help you plan and safely supervise your spring (cleaning) fast.

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Dr. Viana's NEW BOOK: *Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine* - Available at local Bookstores, Hotel Gift shops and Boticas. Signed copies at Viana Healing Center, EBook on www.amazon.com, check for Events at: vianaheal.com or facebook. com/vianahealingcenter

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Online ivory trade threatens Africa's elephants

TODD PITMAN
Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Conservationists say there's a new threat to the survival of Africa's endangered elephants that may be just as deadly as poachers' bullets: the black-market trade of ivory in cyberspace.

Illegal tusks are being bought and sold on countless Internet forums and shopping websites worldwide with increasing frequency, including Internet giant Google, according to activists. And wildlife groups attending the 178-nation Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species in Bangkok this week are calling on global law enforcement agencies to do something about it.

The elephant slaughter, which has reached crisis proportions unheard of in two decades, is largely being driven by skyrocketing demand in Asia, where tusks are often carved into tourist trinkets and ornaments.

"The Internet is anonymous, it's open 24 hours a day for business, and selling illegal ivory online is a low-risk, high-profit activity for criminals," Tania McCrea-Steele of the International Fund for Animal Welfare told The Associated Press on Tuesday from London.

In one investigation last year, IFAW found 17,847 ivory products listed on 13 websites in China. The country, which conservationists call the world's leading destination for "blood ivory" exported out of Africa by smuggling gangs and heavily armed rebel militias, is not alone. IFAW says illegal ivory trading online is an issue within the U.S., including on eBay, and it is rife on some websites in Europe, particularly nations with colonial links to Africa.

It is often advertised with code words like "ox-bone," "white gold," "unburnable bone," or "cold to the touch," and shipped through the mail.

Another conservation advocacy group, the Envi-

ronmental Investigation Agency, said Tuesday that Google Japan's shopping site now has 10,000 ads promoting the sale of ivory. About 80 percent of the ads are for "hanko," small wooden stamps inlaid with ivory lettering that are widely used in Japan to affix signature seals to official documents; the rest are carvings and other small objects.

The EIA said hanko sales are a "major demand driver for elephant ivory."

"While elephants are being mass slaughtered across Africa to produce ivory trinkets, it is shocking to discover that Google, with the massive resources it has at its disposal, is failing to enforce its own policies designed to help protect endangered elephants," said Allan Thorton, EIA's U.S.-based president.

Google said in an emailed response to The Associated Press that "ads for products obtained from endangered or threatened species are not allowed on Google. As soon as we detect ads that violate our advertising policies, we remove them."

The EIA said it had written a letter to Google CEO Larry Page on Feb. 22 urging the company to remove the ads because they violate Google's own policies. It said Google had not responded to the letter or taken down the advertisements.

About 70 years ago, up to 5 million elephants were

believed to have roamed the African continent. Today, just several hundred thousand are left.

As Asian economies have grown, so has their demand for ivory.

Over the last 12 months, an estimated 32,000 elephants were killed in Africa, according to the Born Free Foundation, which says black-market ivory sells for as much as \$1,300 per pound, a huge multi-billion dollar business.

CITES banned the international ivory trade in 1989, but the move did not address domestic markets. Since then, Japan and China have imported legal ivory stocks from Africa in at least three controlled sales.

McCrea-Steele said IFAW has advised Google on illicit trading, as well as China's Alibaba Group, which runs the popular e-commerce platform Taobao. She said both were "very responsive" and had taken action to stamp out illicit activities.

IFAW has also worked with eBay, which it once called "one of the main channels through which trafficking in wildlife and wildlife products are conducted online." The company imposed its own voluntary ban in 2007 after IFAW helped persuade them that ivory was indeed being trafficked with the help of their site.

"They've cleaned up, that's sure," said Adrian Hiel, an IFAW official at-



In this Jan. 4, 2013, ivory tusks are displayed after being confiscated by Hong Kong Customs in Hong Kong.

Associated Press

tending the CITES conference in the Thai capital. "But there are so many ads that come out every day, you have to be vigilant, you have to keep checking."

Even now, concerned Internet shoppers still allege ivory is being sold on eBay. One called attention to a carving of a rural Asian village scene selling for \$1,000 that is labeled as "Fine Chinese Ox Bone." The item is advertised by a seller in Los Angeles with the note, "Ships to: Worldwide."

Hiel said it was always possible to make an educated guess based on where the object is being sold and

how much it goes for. But "unless you buy it and examine it, it's hard to tell for sure what's legal and what's not."

"Our argument is that the onus should be on the seller to prove the legality of what they're selling," Hiel said. "Because law enforcement can't go around ordering stuff of eBay just to test the legality of it."

Dan Ashe, director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said that when elephant poaching last reached crisis levels several decades ago, web-based trafficking was not something anybody had to consider. □

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TRANSNATIONALS
**Marriott to help
Ikea launch new
budget hotels**

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Ikea says Marriott International Inc. will help it open its new budget hotels across western Europe during the next five years. The Swedish company, which first announced last year that it will launch the hotel chain, said Tuesday that Marriott, the operator of luxury hotels across the world, will be its partner. They will develop some 50 hotels with 150-300 rooms each in major cities. The first is scheduled to open in Milan, Italy, next year. Peter Andrews, head of Inter Hospitality — part of Inter Ikea's property division — said the agreement allows the group "to build a high quality hotel property investment portfolio." Ikea, the world's largest furniture retailer, already owns a handful of hotels. Marriott International has more than 3,700 properties in 74 countries and territories. □

**Oil production
warning made by
Shell for Nigeria**

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell PLC has issued a production warning over its operations in Nigeria as it says thieves continue to cut into its pipelines, causing oil spills and damage. Shell said in a statement Tuesday that it was declaring "force majeure" on shipments of Bonny Light crude oil after it shut down its Nembe Creek Trunkline, a major pipeline for the company. That means the company cannot deliver the promised supply from the field. On Monday, the company issued a statement saying its Nigerian subsidiary lost some 150,000 barrels of oil a day over several days in late February after safety systems shut down the trunk line. Shell said the shutdowns came after thieves cut into the line. Nigeria is a top supplier of crude to the U.S. □

US service firms hit fastest pace in a year

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.

service companies grew in February at the fastest pace in a year, buoyed by higher sales, more new orders and solid job growth. The gain suggests higher taxes have yet to slow consumer spending on services. The Institute for Supply Management said Tuesday that its index of non-manufacturing activity rose to 56 in February from 55.2 in January. Any reading above 50 indicates expansion.

The report measures growth in industries that cover 90 percent of the work force, including retail, construction, health care and financial services. A solid recovery in the housing market helped drive the index hiring.

Service firms also kept adding jobs last month. A measure of service-sector hiring fell only slightly after reaching a nearly seven-year high in January.

"This survey does bode well

for both activity and employment in the second quarter," Paul Dales, an economist at Capital Economics, said in a note to clients.



Sherman Sykes cooks hamburgers for a lunchtime crowd at his rebuilt restaurant in Henryville, Ind. U.S. service companies grew in February at the fastest pace in a year. The gain suggests higher taxes have yet to slow consumer spending on services.

(AP Photo/Bruce Schreiner)

The increase contributed to a strong day on Wall Street in which the Dow Jones industrial average was on pace to close at a

record high. The Dow rose 147 points in midmorning trading to 14,275.

Thirteen of the 18 industries covered by the ISM survey reported expansion, in-

cluding construction, real estate, finance and insurance, and utilities.

The growth suggests that Americans are spending

more despite an increase in Social Security taxes that took effect on Jan. 1. The companies surveyed by the ISM cover many industries that are closely tied to consumer spending, such as retail, hotels and restaurants and arts and entertainment. The higher payroll taxes cost a household earning \$50,000 about \$1,000 a year; a household with two high-paid workers will have up to \$4,500 less. And those companies expect consumers to keep spending. Order backlogs grew at the fastest pace in 20 months, a sign that many firms can't keep up with rising sales. Stockpiles also rose strongly.

Anthony Nieves, the chair of the ISM's survey committee, said the increases in both categories point to higher future sales.

"Companies are gearing up for more volume, more activity," Nieves said.

The report also points to continued growth in hiring at service companies last month. □

US home prices rose by most since 2006

C. S. RUGABER
AP Economics Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.

home prices jumped in January, a sign the housing market is gaining momentum as it nears the spring selling season.

Home prices rose 9.7 percent in January from a year ago, according to data released Tuesday by CoreLogic. That's up from an 8.3 percent increase in December and the biggest annual gain since April 2006.

Prices rose in all states except Delaware and Illinois. And prices increased in 92 of the 100 largest metro areas, up from 87 in December. Home prices also rose 0.7 percent in January from December. That's a solid increase given that sales usually slow over the winter months.

Rising demand combined with fewer available homes is pushing up

prices. Sales of previously owned homes ticked up in January after rising to their highest level in five years in 2012, according to the National Association of Re-

where prices rose 20.1 percent, followed by Nevada, with 17.4 percent, and Idaho, with 14.9 percent. California and Hawaii rose 14.1 percent and 14 percent,



A home for sale in Mount Lebanon, Pa. U.S. home prices jumped in January, a sign the housing market is gaining momentum as it nears the spring selling season.

(AP Photo/Gene J. Puskar)

altors. At the same time, inventories of homes for sale fell to a 13-year low.

The states with the biggest price gains were Arizona,

respectively.

The cities with the biggest gains were Phoenix, Los Angeles, Riverside, California, New York, and Atlanta.

Nationwide, home values were still down more than 26 percent from their peak in April 2006 through January, CoreLogic said. But in some states prices have recovered a lot of lost ground. In 15 states, home prices are within 10 percent of their peak values, CoreLogic said.

There have been other recent signs that the housing market is going strong. A measure of the number of Americans who signed contracts to buy homes rose in January from December to the highest level in more than 2 1/2 years. That suggests sales of previously occupied homes will keep rising in the coming months. Steady increases in prices help fuel the housing recovery. They encourage some homeowners to sell homes and entice some would-be buyers to purchase homes before prices rise further. □

World stocks surge on China, Europe data, Dow highs

TOBY STERLING

AP Business Writer

AMSTERDAM (AP) — The U.S. Dow Jones Industrial Index broke its all-time record Tuesday and around the world stocks rose strongly, following better-than-expected economic data in Europe and the United States and a pledge from China, the world's second largest economy, that it would meet ambitious growth targets.

On Wall Street, the Dow rose 1.1 percent to 14,278.42, passing all-time highs set in October 2007. The S&P 500 advanced 1.2 percent to 1,542.96.

In Germany, the DAX closed Tuesday 2.3 percent higher to 7,870.31, while France's CAC-40 was 2.1 percent higher at 3,787.19. Britain's FTSE 100 rose 1.4 percent to 6,431.95.

Earlier in Asia, Hong Kong's Hang Seng rose 0.1 percent to 22,560.50. The mainland's Shanghai Composite Index jumped 2.3 percent to 2,326.31 and the

Shenzhen Composite Index added 2.3 percent to 964.68 after Wen's pledge to support growth.

The day's rally started in China, at the ruling Communist Party's annual congress. Outgoing Premier Wen Jiabao told members that the government would take steps to support an economic growth target of 7.5 percent enshrined in its latest five-year development plan.

European markets, including bond prices, were then buoyed by a sharp rise in retail sales across the 17-country group that uses the euro. Sales grew 1.2 percent in January from the previous month, far above the 0.2 percent investors were expecting. Economists said the gain was likely fueled by post-holiday discounts and warned consumer spending is unlikely to remain that strong in coming months.

U.S. shares were helped by service-sector data, as the Institute for Supply Man-

agement said Tuesday said its survey of purchasing managers — the executives who buy supplies for their companies — showed more optimism than ana-



A man checks his cell phone outside a securities firm in Tokyo, Tuesday, March 5, 2013. Stocks in Tokyo rose on hopes that the Bank of Japan, which begins a two-day meeting on Wednesday, might demonstrate a shift in monetary policy to conform to the program championed by new Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The Nikkei 225 index advanced 0.4 percent to 11,702.46.

(AP Photo/Junji Kurokawa)

lysts had expected in February. A similar survey of economic activity came in slightly better than expected for the services sectors in both Germany and France.

In his speech, Wen mentioned subsidies for agriculture and energy conservation. He also pledged to relax the credit supply, analysts said.

economic growth," said Francis Lun, managing director of Lyncean Holdings in Hong Kong.

Lun also said he believes China's leaders are aiming for something higher than the 7.5 percent growth target announced at the congress. Stocks in Tokyo rose on hopes that the Bank of Japan, which begins a two-day meeting on Wednesday, might demonstrate a shift in monetary policy to conform to the program championed by new Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. The Nikkei 225 index advanced 0.3 percent to 11,683.45, its highest close since September 2008.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 1.3 percent to 5,075.40 amid bargain-hunting after a sharp sell-off the day before.

In commodity markets, the benchmark oil contract for April delivery was up 17 cents at \$90.42 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. □

HSBC sells US consumer, homeowner loans for \$3.2B

NEW YORK (AP) — HSBC, Europe's largest bank, is selling two portfolios containing U.S. consumer and homeowner loans for about \$3.2 billion in cash as it looks to minimize its exposure in the country.

HSBC has been selling assets as part of its plan to

improve profitability and shore up capital. Last year it completed the sale of its U.S. card business to Capital One for \$2.6 billion.

The two portfolios are being sold to SpringCastle Acquisition LLC, which is owned by consumer finance company Springleaf Finance

Inc. and real estate investment trust Newcastle Investment Corp.

The transaction includes more than 400,000 personal homeowner loans and personal unsecured loans originated mainly through HSBC Finance Corp., Newcastle said.

The sale of the portfolios is expected to close in the second quarter.

Springleaf will also buy HSBC's loan servicing facility in Kentucky. That sale is targeted to close in the fourth quarter after a period allowing for the conversion of loans being sold to Spring-

Castle. HSBC said that most of the building's workers will transfer and become Springleaf employees.

U.S.-listed shares of HSBC Holdings PLC added 12 cents to \$54.07 in Tuesday midday trading, while Newcastle's stock rose 11 cents to \$11.24. □

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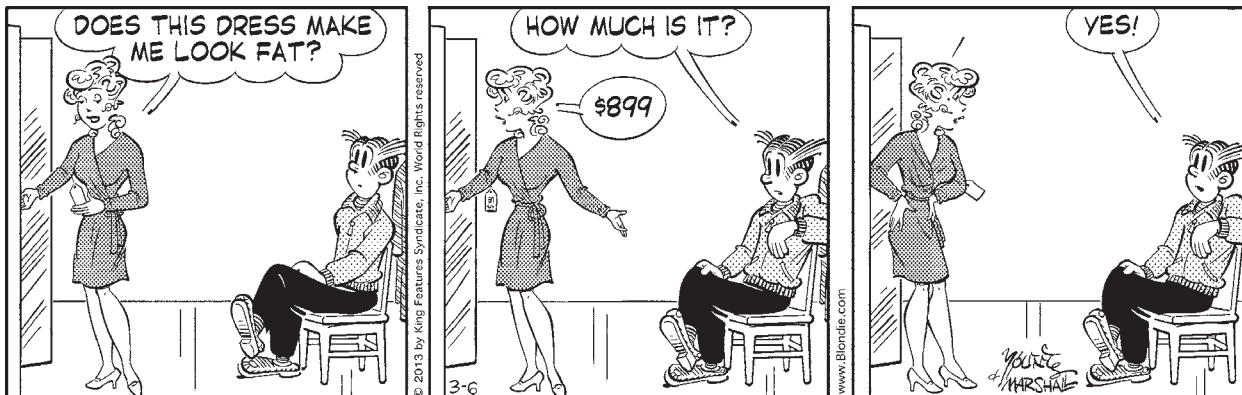
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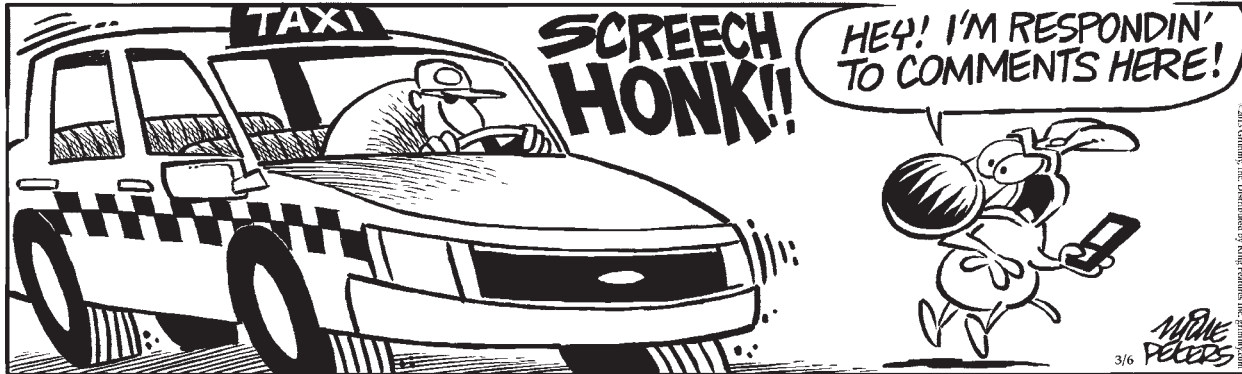
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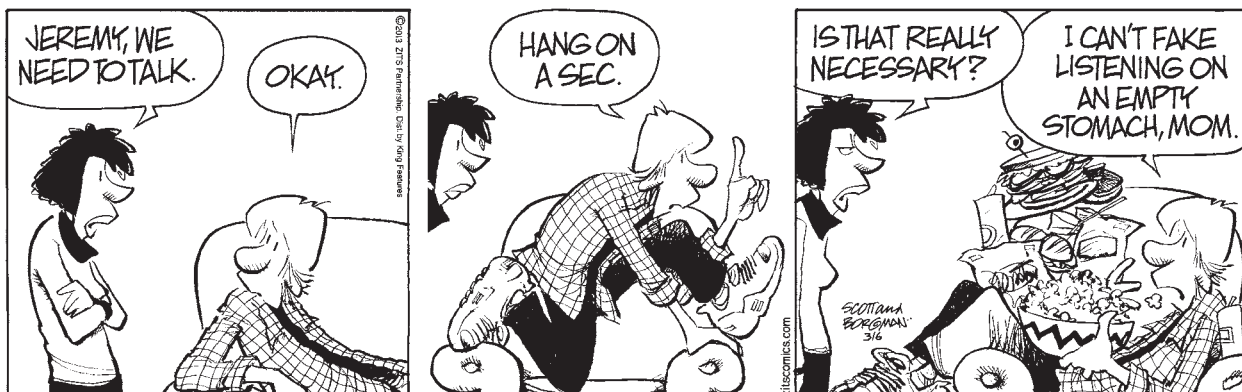
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

				5				
			6		4			
		3					4	
		4		2		1		
	9	7				5	2	
2	3	1		6		7	4	9
		5				3		
	4	8	5		2	6	7	
6	7			1			5	2

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/06

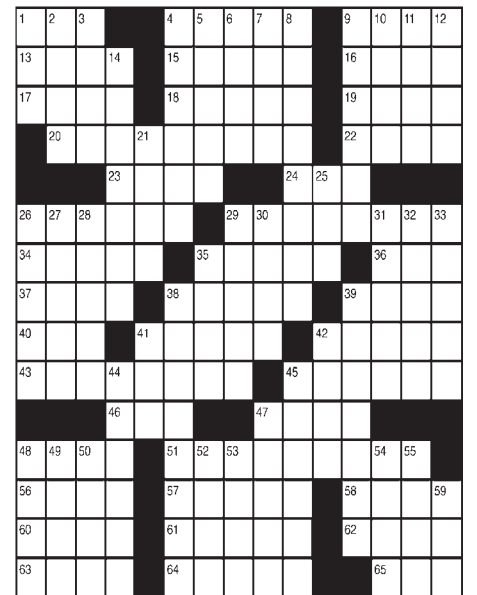
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	6	4	3	9	5	7	8
7	9	3	2	5	8	6	4	1
4	8	5	1	7	6	2	3	9
3	7	4	6	9	5	1	8	2
9	1	2	3	8	4	7	5	6
6	5	8	7	1	2	4	9	3
2	6	9	8	4	7	3	1	5
5	3	7	9	6	1	8	2	4
8	4	1	5	2	3	9	6	7

ACROSS

- Caress
- the way; pioneers
- time to time; occasionally
- of Wight
- First stage
- Dubuque, —
- Orange rind
- Actor Michael
- Perpendicular building wings
- Teach again
- Couldn't care —; is uninterested
- Sleeveless sweater
- Cushion
- Tilted
- Broad-brimmed felt hats
- In —; as one
- Idaho's capital
- Mrs. Nixon
- Copenhagen resident
- Sow
- Group of quail
- Anger
- Burst forth
- Row of seminar speakers
- U.S. flag
- Red tape
- Tease
- Numskull
- African nation
- Emergency vehicle
- Declare openly
- Tied up
- Fast planes
- Brunch, for one
- Knight's spear
- Part of a foot
- Finishes
- Go in
- Definite article



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/6/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

ZONE	REBEL	SLIM
EWER	EVAADE	HOSE
TEAR	SENSATIONS	
ASP	PUNK	RENTS
OPALS	CAL	
ASLANT	BRIDAL	
SKIRT	SHOAL	BED
KITE	RUING	THAI
SPA	BARED	CROSS
SNOOZE	FOURTH	
PIE	GOMER	
BORIS	HERB	EMU
RHINESTONE	GNUS	
AIDE	HIRE	ACME
DOES	YEAST	LESS

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3/6/13

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 41 Inventor — | 49 Microwave, e.g. |
| Whitney | 50 Incite; spur |
| 42 Dad | 52 Complain |
| 44 Noises from an empty stomach | 53 Tap a baseball lightly |
| 45 Attorney | 54 Penny |
| General Eric — | 55 Engrave |
| 47 Blockhead | 59 Feminine pronoun |
| 48 No longer wild | |

DOWN

- Stylish
- Freeloader
- Delight
- Short-horned grasshopper
- Belly button
- Fix one's hair
- Make indistinct
- Likely
- Barkless dog
- Feasted
- Sound portion of a broadcast
- Get entangled
- Like an expensive coat
- Covered with lather
- Slight coloring
- Many golf tournaments
- Fix one's hair
- Make indistinct
- Likely
- Barkless dog



Classifieds

DOCTOR ON DUTY
Oranjestad
Dr. Habibe



EMERGENCIA

911

	
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POLIS	581-1100
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Foundation

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incl. \$45.000
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Comet making closest approach ever of Earth

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida

(AP) — A recently discovered comet is closer than it's ever been to Earth, and stargazers in the Northern Hemisphere finally get to see it.

Called Pan-STARRS, the comet passed within 100 million miles (160 million kilometers) of Earth on Tuesday, its closest approach in its first-ever cruise through the inner solar system. The ice ball will get even nearer the sun this weekend — just 28 million miles (45 million kilometers) from the sun and within the orbit of Mercury.

The comet has been visible for weeks from the Southern Hemisphere. Now the



This March 2, 2013 photo made available by spaceweather.com shows the comet, Pan-STARRS, seen from Queenstown, New Zealand.
Associated Press

top half of the world gets a glimpse as well.

The best viewing days should be next Tuesday and Wednesday, when Pan-STARRS appears next to a crescent moon at

dusk in the western sky. Until then, glare from the sun will obscure the comet.

California astronomer Tony Phillips said the comet's proximity to the moon will make it easier for novice

sky watchers to find it. Binoculars likely will be needed for the best viewing, he said, warning onlookers to avoid pointing them at the setting sun.

"Wait until the sun is fully below the horizon to scan for the comet in the darkening twilight," Phillips advised in an email sent from his home and observatory in the Sierra Nevada mountains.

Pan-STARRS' name is actually an acronym for the Hawaiian telescope used to spot it two years ago: the Panoramic Survey Telescope and Rapid Response System. The volcano-top telescope is on constant prowl for dangerous asteroids and comets that might be headed our

way.

Thought to be billions of years old, the comet originated in the distant Oort cloud — a cloud of icy bodies well beyond the orbits of Neptune and Pluto — and somehow got propelled toward the inner solar system. It's never passed by Earth before, Phillips said. A much brighter comet show, meanwhile, is on the way. Comet ISON may come close to outshining the moon in November. It was discovered last September by Russian astronomers and got its acronym name from the International Scientific Optical Network.

Neither Pan-STARRS nor ISON pose a threat to Earth, according to scientists. □



In this July 10, 2007, file photo, the coal-fired Plant Scherer in operation at Juliette, Ga. For the second year in a row, the EPA's data shows that the largest greenhouse gas polluter in the nation in 2011 was the Scherer power plant in Juliette.
Associated Press

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The amount of heat-trapping carbon dioxide in the air jumped dramatically in 2012, making it very unlikely that global warming can be limited to another 2 degrees (1.2 C) as many global leaders have hoped, new federal figures show.

Scientists say the rise in CO2 reflects the world's

economy revving up and burning more fossil fuels, especially in China.

Carbon dioxide levels jumped by 2.67 parts per million since 2011 to total just under 395 parts per million, says Pieter Tans, who leads the greenhouse gas measurement team for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

That's the second highest rise in carbon emissions since record-keeping be-

U.S. scientists report big jump in heat-trapping CO2

gan in 1959. The measurements are taken from air samples captured away from civilization near a volcano in Mauna Loa, Hawaii.

More coal-burning power plants, especially in the developing world, are the main reason emissions keep going up — even as they have declined in the U.S. and other places, in part through conservation and cleaner energy.

At the same time, plants and the world's oceans which normally absorb some carbon dioxide, last year took in less than they do on average, says John Reilly, co-director of Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change. Plant and ocean absorption of carbon varies naturally year to year.

But, Tans tells The Associated Press the major factor is ever-rising fossil fuel burning: "It's just a testament to human influence being dominant."

Only 1998 had a bigger annual increase in carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas from human activity.

That year, 2.93 parts per million of CO2 was added. From 2000 to 2010, the world averaged a yearly rise of just under 2 parts per million. Levels rose by less than 1 part per million in the 1960s. In 2009, the world's nations agreed on a voluntary goal of limiting global warming to 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit (1.9 C) over pre-industrial temperature levels. Since the mid-1800s temperatures have already risen about 1.5

degrees (0.7 C). Current pollution trends translate to another 2.5 to 4.5 degrees (1.3 to 2.3 C) of warming within the next several decades, Reilly says.

"The prospects of keeping climate change below that (2-degree goal) are fading away," Tans says.

Scientists track carbon pollution both by monitoring what comes out of factories and what winds up in the atmosphere. Both are rising at rates faster than worst-case scenarios that climate scientists used in their most recent international projections, according to Pennsylvania State University climate scientist Michael Mann.

That means harmful effects of climate change will happen sooner, Mann says. □

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This March 9, 2012 file photo shows Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band performing at the Apollo Theater in New York.

Associated Press

Springsteen to return to London festival

LONDON (AP) — Bruce Springsteen is returning to headline the London Hard Rock Calling festival, a year after authorities pulled the plug on his duet with Paul McCartney for violating a curfew.

The American rock star brings The E Street Band back to the event that is moving to a new location at the city's Olympic Park. Concert organizers Live Nation are leaving Hyde Park amid friction between fans and the neighborhood's well-heeled residents, many of whom gripe about the late-night noise. Springsteen had already exceeded the 10:30 p.m. curfew by half an hour when he welcomed McCartney on stage last July. They sang the Beatles hits

"I Saw Her Standing There" and "Twist and Shout." But officials turned the microphones off, and they were forced to leave the stage in silence.

Springsteen will headline the second night of the two-day festival on June 30. Other acts include Kasabian, Paul Weller, the Black Crowes and Alabama Shakes. Live Nation Entertainment is holding a series of concerts at the former Olympic venue this summer — including the Hard Rock Calling and Wireless festivals — after gaining exclusive rights to the venue. The 560-acre (227-hectare) site of the 2012 Summer Games is due to reopen to the public in stages between July and early 2014. □

U.S. Kennedy Center to host hip-hop festival in 2014

BRETT ZONGKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hip-hop artists including rappers Nas and Somalia-born K'naan will take center stage in an unexpected place next year: as part of next season at the Kennedy Center in Washington.

The center announced Tuesday that its 2013-2014 season would include the weeklong festival "One Mic: Hip-Hop Culture Worldwide." It will also feature an international theater festival featuring works from at least 10 different nations and new American works in theater, opera and music. The center is one of the nation's busiest performing arts centers, with more than 2,000 performances scheduled.

The 2014 hip-hop festival will open with Nas rapping with musicians from the National Symphony Orchestra Pops playing music from his classic debut album "Illmatic." □

Hawaii Senate passes Steven Tyler Act on privacy

ANITA HOFSCHEIDER
Associated Press

HONOLULU (AP) — Hawaii's state Senate passed the so-called Steven Tyler Act on Tuesday, a bill that seeks to protect celebrities from overeager paparazzi by making it illegal for people to take unwanted photos or videos of others in their private moments.

The Aerosmith frontman asked Sen. Kalani English to sponsor the legislation after unwanted photos were taken of him and his girlfriend last December and published in a national magazine, causing family drama.

Tyler owns a multimillion dollar home in Maui, in English's district. English said the proposal could help increase celebrity tourism in Hawaii.

Twenty-three of the state's

25 Senate members voted in favor of the bill, which now goes to the House for consideration.

Besides Tyler, other celebrities have supported the bill, including Britney Spears, Mick Fleetwood and the Osborne family. They say intrusive paparazzi make it difficult to enjoy simple activities with family and friends.

But national media organizations worry about the proposal's impact on freedom of the press. The National Press Photographers Association and the Society of Professional Journalists were some of several national media organizations that submitted testimony opposing the bill.

The Senate Judiciary Committee responded to criticism of the measure's vague language by re-



This Feb. 8, 2013 file photo shows Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler testifying on celebrity privacy during a hearing at the Hawaii Capitol in Honolulu.

Associated Press

placing the original version with the text of an existing California anti-paparazzi statute. □

20 years on, Valiant's Dr. Mirage reborn, remade



This comic book cover released by Valiant Comics shows the cover of "Shadowman" No. 5, out Wednesday, March 6.

Associated Press

MATT MOORE

Associated Press

It's no hallucination: Dr. Mirage has returned to Valiant Entertainment though the paranormal detective is decidedly different.

Appearing in "Shadowman" No. 5 — out Wednesday — the popular character who debuted in 1993

is presented anew as Dr. Shan Fong, a dedicated and detailed investigator who talks to spirits in a bid to solve human crimes.

"The low key intro is about readers getting to know her," said "Shadowman" designer and artist Patrick Zircher of Fong's first appearance. "Hopefully they like what they see and there'll be plenty of adventures to come."

Valiant said Tuesday that the contemporary Dr. Mirage is similar to the previous incarnation, a man named Hwen Mirage, whose exploits with wife Carmen Ruiz ran for 18 issues in "Second Life of Doctor Mirage" — but, added Zircher, her powers are more steeped in Asian mysticism.

"Dr. Mirage's return is part of Valiant's ongoing plan to expand its universe of characters and she's a natural fit for the supernatural and mystic stories taking place in 'Shadowman,'"

he said of the new issue. It was written by Justin Jordan with art by Zircher, Lee Garbett, Stefano Gaudiano and Roberto Delatorre, and sees Shadowman take on the Lord of Cemeteries.

While she doesn't have a big appearance in the book, yet, Zircher said it's just the beginning.

Dinesh Shamdasani, Valiant's chief creative officer, said Mirage's reintroduction is part of a larger story that involves the entire Valiant universe.

"Since the Summer of Valiant, we've been slowly building towards several key events. You can see the first of these events this April in Harbinger Wars, where Bloodshot and Harbinger collide," he said. "The return of Dr. Mirage is part of that plan — part of the setting the stage. Dr. Mirage is a key piece in the future of the Valiant Universe and the timing of the return, as well as the manner, is no accident." □

Hendrix at 70: New album offers different look

CHRIS TALBOTT

AP Music Writer

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— Jimi Hendrix recorded everything. More than 40 years after his death, though, the tape is finally running out. "People, Hell & Angels," out Tuesday, will be the last album of Hendrix's unreleased studio material, according to Eddie Kramer, the engineer who recorded most of Hendrix's music during his brief but spectacular career. That ends a four-decade run of posthumous releases by an artist whose legacy remains as vital and vibrant now as it was at the time of his death.

"Jimi utilized the studio as a rehearsal space," Kramer said. "That's kind of an expensive way of doing things, but thank God he did."

The 12 tracks on "People, Hell & Angels" were recorded in 1968-69 after the Jimi Hendrix Experience disbanded. There's a changeable roster of backing musicians, including Buddy Miles and Billy Cox, who would briefly become Hendrix's Band of Gypsies. Stephen Stills, recently of Buffalo Springfield, even popped up on



This CD cover image released by Legacy shows "People, Hell and Angels," by Jimi Hendrix.

Associated Press

bass on one track.

It was a difficult period for Hendrix as his business and creative endeavors became entangled, and he retreated to the studio to seek inspiration.

"Jimi used that time in the studio to experiment, to jam, to rehearse, and using this jam-rehearsal style of recording enabled him to try different musicians of different stripes and backgrounds, because they of-

fered a musical challenge to him," Kramer said. "He wanted to hear music expressed with different guys who could lend a different approach to it. And as part of this whole learning curve, what emerged was this band that played at Woodstock in '69, that little concert on the hill there." Many of the songs have been heard in different versions or forms before, but the music here is funk-

ier than his best known work — at times sinuous, at times raucous. Horns pop up here and there. He's a cosmic philosopher riding an earthbound backbeat on "Somewhere." He's a groovin' bluesman enveloped in a bit of that purple haze on "Hear My Train a Comin'." He challenges a saxophone to a fist fight on "Let Me Move You." Then he channels James Brown on "Mojo Man" and ends the album as if shutting down an empty cinder-block club on a lonely stretch of dark highway with "Villanova Junction Blues." Hendrix died not long after making the last of these recordings. He'd already disbanded the players and was working with the Experience again in 1970 when he died of asphyxia in September 1970 at 27.

The last of the studio albums was timed for the year he would have turned 70. But in the 43 years that have passed since his death, he's remained a fixture in American popular culture in much the same way Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash have endured. Still a radio staple, his image and music pops up often in commer-

cials. There's a biopic on the way with Andre Benjamin tackling the lead role. Even his out-there sense of fashion remains relevant. Driving that image is the continued importance of his music, inspiring entranced young guitarists to attack his work in an endless loop of rediscovery over the decades. Tastes and sounds may change, but Hendrix always remains close at hand. Maybe it's because he was so far ahead of his time, we still haven't caught up.

"He was a psychedelic warrior," said Luther Dickinson, Grammy-nominated singer-guitar of the North Mississippi Allstars. "He was one of those forces that pushed evolution. He was kicking the doors down. He was forcing the future into our ears." For Dickinson and his brother Cody, it was Hendrix's post-apocalyptic psych-rock epic "1983 ... (A Merman I Should Turn to Be)" that blew their minds. But he means different things to different musicians. He played the chitlin circuit in the South before being discovered as a rocker in Europe and his music was also steeped in the blues, R&B and jazz. □

Watts, Pitt bring films to Tribeca Film Festival



This film image released by the Tribeca Film Festival shows, from left, Amy Morton, Emily Meade, and John Slattery in a scene from "Bluebird," a film that will be shown at the Tribeca Film Festival running April 17 through April 28, 2013 in New York.

Associated Press

JAKE COYLE

AP Entertainment Writer
NEW YORK (AP) — The 12th annual Tribeca Film Festival will feature everything from Will Forte's dramatic film debut to a tale of Arctic cowboys herding reindeer. The New York festival on Tuesday announced 46 of the 89 feature films that will

make up this year's lineup. The films include those in competition at Tribeca, in both narrative and documentary categories, as well as those in its out-of-competition "Viewpoints" section that highlights unique perspectives.

This year's slate, culled from more than 6,000 sub-

missions, is the typical grab bag of U.S. independent films, issue-driven documentaries and international curiosities that customarily populate the screens for two weeks every spring. Lance Edmonds' "Bluebird" will open the narrative competition with a drama about a U.S. logging town, starring Amy Morton, Adam Driver of "Girls," John Slattery and Margo Martindale. Also in the category is a romantic drama from "Sherrybaby" director Laurie Collyer. "Sunlight Jr." stars Naomi Watts as a convenience store employee in love with a paraplegic played by Matt Dillon. The documentary competition will be led off by Rachel Boynton's "Big Men," an expose on oil compa-

nies in Africa. Brad Pitt is among the producers. Also in competition is the documentary "Red Obsession," narrated by Russell Crowe, about the ramifications of China's appetite for Bordeaux wine.

Other documentaries tackle such fearsome subjects as frigid reindeer herding ("Aatsinki: The Story of Arctic Cowboys"), the rise of teenagers in American society ("Teenage"), OxyContin addiction ("Oxyana") and the Austrian director Michael Haneke ("Michael H. Profession: Director"). Playing in "Viewpoints" will be Steph Green's "Run and Jump." It features Forte, the former "Saturday Night Live" cast member, in a drama about a family in Ireland strug-

gling after the husband suffers a stroke. Other entries include a documentary on same-sex couples ("Bridegroom"), a bird-watching comedy with Ben Kingsley ("A Birder's Guide to Everything"), a New York street performance documentary ("Flex Is Kings") and a mental hospital drama starring Jennifer Jason Leigh ("The Moment").

The Tribeca Film Festival runs April 17 through April 28. The festival earlier announced its opening night film as the documentary "Mistaken for Strangers" about the Brooklyn rock band The National, which will perform at the premiere.

The festival will announce the other half of its lineup next week. □

Reading God's Mind



FRANK BRUNI

© 2013 New York Times

Jeff Chu was married in September, on the lawn of a house on Cape Cod, against the backdrop of an ivy-covered fence. About 80 people came.

His mother and father weren't among them.

His mother sent an email just beforehand, to let him know that she was thinking of him. But to be a part of the ceremony? To celebrate the day? That much she couldn't do, because Jeff was pledging his devotion to another man. And his parents, strict Southern Baptists, have always deemed such a love sinful, and against God's wishes.

Against God's wishes.

That notion — that argument — is probably the most stubborn barrier to the full acceptance of gay and lesbian Americans, a last bastion and engine of bigotry. It's what many preachers still thunder. It's what some politicians still maintain. It's what Jeff himself once feared.

"How many nights have I spent sweaty and panicked and drained of tears, because I thought I would go to hell — for being gay, for being me?" he asks.

And how often, he adds, did he pray "that God would take these feelings from me?"

Those words come from a book he wrote, its title yet another question: "Does Jesus Really Love Me?" It will be published this month, and is largely a travelogue.

For the span of a year, Jeff, who has written for Time magazine and many other publications, roamed the country, visiting Christian churches and groups of diverse theological stripes to explore their attitudes toward homosexuality. He also talked with devout Christians who'd dealt with homosexual feelings in different ways: by repressing them, by embracing them, by trying to divert them.

One man had elected celibacy. Another had married a woman and resolved to appreciate sex with her. He told Jeff: "It's not like pizza or french fries — it's more an acquired taste that I've come to like even better. It's like olives." In the book Jeff, now 35, also shares his own story, which we discussed further in his Brooklyn

townhouse recently.

His parents came to America from Hong Kong with the conservative beliefs that Baptist missionaries had spread through that area of the world. They reared Jeff in their religion, sending him to a Christian high school in Miami. One of his vivid memories from those years was the sudden banishment of a favorite teacher after the school discovered that he was involved with another man.

Jeff knew even then that he had feelings like the teacher's, and writes: "This was the lesson that I learned: Nobody could ever, ever find out, because if they did, I would be damned and cast out, just like he was." At Princeton, he dated women. But in London for graduate school, he began to date men, and to wonder how that orientation could be wrong, when God had presumably made him the way he was.

Although his book doesn't focus on the scattered references in the Bible to homosexuality, Jeff knows them well. And, yes, a few seem to condemn same-sex intimacy.

But have they been translated correctly? Interpreted the right way? Are they timeless verities or — more logically — reflections of an outmoded culture and obsolete mindset? And if all of the Bible is to be taken literally, shouldn't Christians refrain from planting multiple kinds of seed in one field or letting women speak in church or charging interest to the poor?

"You can twist the Bible any way you want," Jeff told me, adding, "We overemphasize sexual morality, as if God puts a premium on what we do in the bedroom over what we do at the bank."

He's right. He's also humble. He doesn't claim, in his book or in conversation, to have definitive answers. He hasn't determined beyond any doubt that his life and love are in concert with God's wishes, because he thinks it arrogant to insist, as the zealots who condemn gay people do, that God's will is so easily known.

And in light of that, he thinks it wrong for anyone to try to consign gays to the shame that so many of them have endured. The stories in Jeff's book made me sad, and they made me angry. How much needless pain have people like him been put through, and in God's name no less?

But Jeff's own story makes me hopeful. It's one of grace. He still attends church, though not a Southern Baptist one. He's patient with his parents; they're struggling, too.

His mother actually plans to visit, and stay with him and his husband this summer.

"I pull her along and she pulls me along, and we grow," Jeff said, describing a dynamic and a tension not unlike America's. "It's uncomfortable for both of us. But it's the path we have to take." □



Mooching Off Medicaid



PAUL KRUGMAN

© 2013 New York Times

Conservatives like to say that their position is all about economic freedom, and hence making government's role in general, and government spending in particular, as small as possible. And no doubt there are individual conservatives who really have such idealistic motives.

When it comes to conservatives with actual power, however, there's an alternative, more cynical view of their motivations — namely, that it's all about comforting the comfortable and afflicting the afflicted, about giving more to those who already have a lot. And if you want a strong piece of evidence in favor of that cynical view, look at the current state of play over Medicaid.

Some background: Medicaid, which provides health insurance to lower-income Americans, is a highly successful program that's about to get bigger, because an expansion of Medicaid is one key piece of the Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare.

There is, however, a catch. Last year's Supreme Court decision upholding Obamacare also opened a loophole that lets states turn down the Medicaid expansion if they choose. And there has been a lot of tough talk from Republican governors about standing firm against the terrible, tyrannical notion of helping the uninsured.

Now, in the end most states will probably go along with the expansion because of the huge financial incentives: The federal government will pay the full cost of the expansion for the first three years, and the additional spending will benefit hospitals and doctors as well as patients. Still, some of the states grudgingly allowing the federal government to help their neediest citizens are placing a condition on this aid, insisting that it must be run through private insurance companies. And that tells you a lot about what conservative politicians really want.

Consider the case of Florida, whose governor, Rick Scott, made his personal fortune in the health industry. At one point, by the way, the company he built pleaded guilty to criminal charges, and paid \$1.7 billion in fines related to Medicare fraud. Anyway, Scott got elected as a fierce opponent of Obamacare, and Florida participated in the suit asking the Supreme Court to declare the whole plan unconstitutional. Nonetheless, Scott recently shocked Tea Party activists by announcing his support for the Medicaid expansion.

But his support came with a condition: He was willing to cover more of the uninsured only after receiving a waiver that would let him run Medicaid through private insurance companies. Now, why would he want to do that?

Don't tell me about free markets. This is all about spending taxpayer money, and the question is whether that money should be spent directly to help people or run through a set of private middlemen.

And despite some feeble claims to the contrary, privatizing Medicaid will end up requiring more, not less, government spending, because there's overwhelming evidence that Medicaid is much cheaper than private insurance. Partly this reflects lower administrative costs, because Medicaid

neither advertises nor spends money trying to avoid covering people. But a lot of it reflects the government's bargaining power, its ability to prevent price gouging by hospitals, drug companies, and other parts of the medical-industrial complex.

For there is a lot of price-gouging in health care — a fact long known to health care economists, but documented especially graphically in a recent article in Time magazine. As Steven Brill, the article's author, points out, individuals seeking health care can face incredible costs, and even large private insurance companies have limited ability to control profiteering by providers. Medicare does much better, and although Brill doesn't point this out, Medicaid — which has greater ability to say no — seems to do better still.

You might ask why, in that case, much of Obamacare will run through private insurers. The answer is, raw political power. Letting the medical-industrial complex continue to get away with a lot of overcharging was, in effect, a price President Barack Obama had to pay to get health reform passed. And since the reward was that tens of millions more Americans will gain insurance, it was a price worth paying.

But why would you insist on privatizing a health program that is already public, and that does a much better job than the private sector of controlling costs? The answer is pretty obvious: The flip side of higher taxpayer costs is higher medical-industry profits.

So ignore all the talk about too much government spending and too much aid to moochers who don't deserve it. As long as the spending ends up lining the right pockets, and the undeserving beneficiaries of public largess are politically connected corporations, conservatives with actual power seem to like Big Government just fine. □

Perk up St. Pat's Day with perfect Irish coffee

MICHELLE LOCKE

Associated Press

Coffee, Irish whiskey and cream.

Taken separately they're a tasty trio. But combine them just the right way and in just the right proportions and they get even better, transforming into a drink that can perk up the grayest day. We're talking Irish coffee, of course, a drink that's especially popular around St. Patrick's Day, but good any time you want to add some zing to your caffeine. The secret,

back when Libbey Glass stopped making the type the Buena Vista uses. Silva had to scramble to find another source but, happily, Libbey has since reinstated the product. For a touch of sweetness, the Buena Vista recipe adds two cubes of sugar, though other recipes call for brown sugar. The cream, meanwhile, should be fresh and just slightly whipped — nothing from an aerosol can.

As for the whiskey, the Buena Vista is currently using Tullamore Dew. In general,

finished off with some time in wine barrels that have been used to age Concannon Vineyard's flagship petite sirah wine. "Because of the unique barrel finishing in the distilling process, Concannon has a complexity and character all its own, making for a one-of-a-kind Irish coffee experience," Concannon said via email.

Though it seems likely that people have been introducing a drop or two of whiskey into coffee for a while, the drink as a

from Shannon Airport in 1952 and on his return got together with Jack Koeppler, then-owner of the Buena Vista, to recreate the drink. The trickiest part was getting the cream to float on top, something that was solved by whipping the cream just a bit,



too. Last year, thirsty revelers sucked down 3,640 Irish coffees.

Take that, green beer.

Looking to brew a little Irish cheer yourself this St. Patrick's Day? Try this classic recipe, or the chocolate-laced variation.

IRISH COFFEE

Depending on which version of the "original" Irish coffee you subscribe to, it is sweetened with either 2 sugar cubes or 1 teaspoon brown sugar. For a rich and chocolaty take on Irish coffee, stir 2 tablespoons of milk chocolate bits into the coffee at the same time as the sugar. Once the chocolate bits have melted, proceed with the recipe.

Start to finish: 5 minutes

Servings: 1

Boiling water

Hot coffee

2 sugar cubes or 1 teaspoon brown sugar

1 1/2 ounces Irish whiskey

1/4 cup heavy or whipping cream, lightly beaten (but still pourable)

Fill a large coffee cup with boiling water to preheat it. Let it stand for about 1 minute, then empty the glass.

Fill the glass three-quarters full with hot coffee. Add the sugar, then stir until dissolved. Stir in the whiskey.

Top the coffee-whiskey blend with the lightly whipped cream. To do this, hold an overturned spoon over the coffee, then slowly pour the cream over it. The goal is for the cream to float on top of the coffee; do not mix it in. Part of the Irish coffee experience is drinking the hot coffee through a layer of cool cream. (Recipe adapted from The Buena Vista Cafe, San Francisco) □



Traditional Irish coffee is served in glass mugs as shown in Concord, N.H. Irish coffee is especially popular around St. Patrick's Day, but good any time you want to add some zing to your caffeine.

(AP Photo/Matthew Mead)

says Larry Silva, general manager of the Buena Vista Cafe in San Francisco — which serves up 2,000 Irish coffees a day — is how you put the drink together. At the Buena Vista — the original source of the drink in the U.S. — Irish coffee starts with a stemmed, 6-ounce glass that's been preheated with hot water. And both of those elements are critical. A bigger or smaller glass would throw off the coffee-booze balance. A cold glass results in a tepid cocktail. There was a bit of a hitch a few years

what you are seeking is a smooth whiskey that won't fight with the other flavors, says Silva. This isn't the time to pull out that peaty Scotch. But don't be afraid to use something good.

"Using a premium spirit elevates any cocktail," says John Concannon, a California vintner who has teamed with Ireland's Cooley Distillery to develop Concannon Irish Whiskey, which also makes a good Irish coffee.

The whiskey, made and aged in Ireland, is matured in bourbon barrels, then

cocktail was popularized in Ireland at the Foynes port, precursor to Shannon Airport, in the 1940s when chef Joe Sheridan decided to pep up some coffee with Irish whiskey to cheer chilly travelers. The drink was much appreciated and one of the passengers is said to have asked, "Was that Brazilian coffee?" Sheridan jokingly answered, "No, that was Irish Coffee," and a tradition was born.

San Francisco newspaperman Stanton Delaplane tried the coffee while flying

then pouring it carefully over the back of a spoon into the cup.

St. Patrick's Day has a special resonance for Concannon since his great-grandfather and winery founder, James Concannon, was born on March 17 in the Aran islands off the coast of Ireland. The winery, based in the Livermore Valley region east of San Francisco, will be celebrating this year with traditional, live Irish music and a toast (with wine) to their founder. And they'll be busy at the Buena Vista,